Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

1

Trilobite Mass Mortality Plate

Early Ordovician Period (approx. 480 million years ago), Fezouata Formation, Drâa-Tafilalet Region, Morocco

Estimate:4,000 - 6,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Trilobite Mass Mortality Plate
Asaphellus tataensis
Early Ordovician Period (approx. 480 million years ago)
Fezouata Formation, Drâa-Tafilalet Region, Morocco

28 x 24½ x 1½ inches (71.1 x 62.2 x 3.8 cm). 67 pounds (30.4 kg).

An assemblage of fossil trilobites belonging to a single species, *Asaphellus tataensis*, preserving both complete and incomplete shells (cephalon, thorax, and pygidium) nicely prepared in high relief on a matrix slab. Mostly articulated examples with eyes and spines (genal) are intact, many are preserved overlapping and some maintain their mouth plates (hypostome). Unidentified debris is discernible.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Trilobites are one of the oldest invertebrates, first appearing about 520 million years ago during the Cambrian explosion, and disappearing during the mass extinction at the end of the Permian Period approximately 250 million years ago. Having survived for about 270 million years, trilobites are also one of the most successful species ever to live on Earth, aided in their survival by their characteristic armor-plated exoskeletons. In addition, some species of trilobites were the first animals to develop eyes for sight. As approximately 20,000 species have been discovered and excavated from all over the globe, trilobites have played an invaluable part in studies of geological stratigraphy and the understanding of ancient environments.

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2

Brittle Star Pair

Late Ordovician Period (approx. 450 million years ago), Ktaoua Formation, Erfoud Region, Morocco

Estimate:2,000 - 3,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Brittle Star Pair
Ophiuroidea - species unidentified
Late Ordovician Period (approx. 450 million years ago)
Ktaoua Formation, Erfoud Region, Morocco

Black brittle star plate: 10¾ x 7½ x 1½ inches (27.3 x 19.1 x 3.8 cm), 13¼ inches (33.7 cm) tall on stand. Black brittle star measures 6½ inches (16.5 cm) in diameter. 8 pounds (3.6 kg).

Red brittle star plate: 9½ x 7¾ x 1¼ inches (24.1 x 19.7 x 3.2 cm), 12½ inches (31.8 cm) tall on stand. Red brittle star measures 7½ inches (19.1 cm) in diameter. 8 pounds (3.6 kg).

Well-preserved articulated bodies with elongate and outstretched waving arms in matrix. Surface detail is incomplete in some areas but does not detract from complete body outlines.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Closely related to starfish, brittle stars differ from their more well-known cousins by having five long, thin, and flexible arms clearly separated from their central disc. Although there are more than 2,000 living species of brittle stars, their remains in the fossil record are extremely limited, making them quite a bit rarer than starfish. One of the reasons for their relative scarcity is that the ossicles lining the bodies of ophiuroids easily detach, hence the term "Brittle Star." Therefore, brittle star fossils only remained intact if they were buried quickly under sediment or if the seabed in which their bodies were deposited remained undisturbed by violent currents, geological forces, or hungry scavengers.

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

3

Much Wenlock Limestone Fossil Plaque

Silurian Period (approx. 426-423 million years ago), Much Wenlock Limestone Formation, Wren's Nest, West Midlands, England

Estimate:4,000 - 6,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Much Wenlock Limestone Fossil Plaque
An assortment of Silurian era bryozoans, crinoids, trilobites, sponges, corals, and mollusks
Silurian Period (approx. 426-423 million years ago)
Much Wenlock Limestone Formation, Wren's Nest, West Midlands, England

16½ x 12½ x 2 inches (41.9 x 31.8 x 5.1 cm), 18 inches (45.7 cm) tall on stand. 23 pounds (10.4 kg).

A multi-species concentration of extinct invertebrates including bryozoans, crinoids, trilobites, sponges, corals, and mollusks naturally assembled, well-preserved, and intact in matrix. The specimen is a fine and interesting display example from a classic fossil locality.

CATALOGUE NOTE

HUNDREDS OF FOSSILS FROM A CLASSIC LOCALITY

The Much Wenlock Limestone Formation formed between 426 and 423 million years ago during the middle of the Silurian Period, produced from the calcium carbonate skeletons of the many invertebrates who died in what was once a shallow tropical reef. Built by animals such as corals and sponges, the reef was then inhabited by a diverse range of gastropods, cephalopods, brachiopods, trilobites, crinoids, and other animals whose skeletons are now remarkably well preserved in the limestone they helped create through their own demise.

Although the Silurian Period saw the development of both terrestrial life and increasingly complex marine vertebrates, the Much Wenlock Limestone Formation mural offered here shows the sheer abundance of invertebrates during this period. Corals, brachiopods, gastropods, crinoids, and bryozoans are all identifiable on the surface of the rock, and many more unidentifiable animals remain embedded within.

This remarkable fossil display was excavated from the Wren′s Nest National Nature Reserve in the English West Midlands. Over 700 different types of fossils have been found at Wren′s Nest, including 186 that were first discovered there, and 86 that can be found nowhere else on Earth. The peak of fossil discovery at Wren′s Nest was during the 19th century, which was also unsurprisingly the height of commercial limestone extraction in the area. Many interesting and aesthetic fossils can still be found at Wren′s Nest, although their excavation is now regulated by government of the United Kingdom.

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

4

Sea Lily (Crinoid) Colony on Driftwood

Early Jurassic Period (approx. 180 million years ago), Holzmaden, Germany

Estimate:30,000 - 50,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Sea Lily (Crinoid) Colony on Driftwood
Seirocrinus subangularis
Early Jurassic Period (approx. 180 million years ago)
Holzmaden, Germany

41 x 22¼ x 1⅛ inches (104.1 x 56.5 x 2.9 cm). Colony measures 34¾ x 14 inches (88.3 x 35.6 cm). 98 pounds (44.5 kg).

Numerous sea lily (crinoid) individuals preserved nicely together attached to driftwood on a trimmed matrix slab. Many individual examples show complete heads and stems. The metallic surfaces on some of the lilies indicate the presence of pyrite. The size ranges of these individuals suggest they were not fully grown at time of death.

CATALOGUE NOTE

This shimmering fossil mural features a colony of crinoids — marine invertebrates colloquially known as "sea lilies" — that lived 180 million years ago in the prehistoric Tethys Ocean that covered much of present-day Europe and Asia. Living almost their entire lives attached to the piece of driftwood seen here, these crinoids flourished in a rich underwater world alongside other marine animals including fish, ammonites, and belemnites. As sessile filter feeders, crinoids relied on the movement of the driftwood or floating debris to which they were attached to venture into areas with adequate food supply. Crinoids were nevertheless able to bend their stalks and flex and extend their arms — the five central appendages in their crowns — so that their mouths could face the water current to capture potential food.

Crinoids bred once a year when their eggs or sperm were released into the water. Once the eggs were released from the parent and fertilized, the resulting embryo would attach itself to a solid substrate such as driftwood where it would develop for several days into a barrel-shaped, free swimming larva. After several more days, the larva would reattach to the driftwood and develop a rudimentary stem, mouth, and five small arm-like tentacles known as podia. After several more weeks, the crinoid would reach the stalked, sessile stage, where it formed true arms, feather-like pinnules, and a complete set of podia that covered the pinnules and helped move food toward the mouth.

For a reason lost to time, this colony of crinoids succumbed to death and became buried on the sea floor, where the low-oxygen environment allowed for their pristine preservation and fossilization. Over millions of years, the sediment and animal remains surrounding this crinoid colony petrified and became the shimmering, pyritized Posidonia shale seen here, now famously extracted from the quarries of Holzmaden, Germany.

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

5

Monumental Sea Lily (Crinoid) Colony

Early Jurassic Period (approx. 180 million years ago), Holzmaden, Germany

Estimate:300,000 - 500,000 USD

∏ Monumental Item AW Alternate Warehouse ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Monumental Sea Lily (Crinoid) Colony
Seirocrinus subangularis
Early Jurassic Period (approx. 180 million years ago)
Upper Middle Epsilon Layer, Posidonia Shale, Holzmaden, Germany

Two plates totaling 137¾ x 122 x 3 inches (349.9 x 309.9 x 7.6 cm), split horizontally. Top plate measures 137¾ x 51 x 3 inches (349.9 x 129.5 x 7.6 cm), bottom plate measures 137¾ x 71 x 3 inches (349.9 x 180.3 x 7.6 cm). 1760 pounds (800 kg) in total.

A mass mortality of pyritized, golden sea lilies (crinoids) preserved in high relief, clustered and tangled in a huge, polished shale matrix. These large specimens have been meticulously prepared at the Urwelt-Museum Hauff in Holzmaden, Germany, rendering exquisite detail. The important segmentation and body outlines of these extinct creatures are displayed as they may have appeared in life, still anchored to their driftwood base.

PROVENANCE

Prepared at the Urwelt-Museum Hauff in Holzmaden, Germany. Documented, registered, and archived as Specimen #879.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A MUSEUM-GRADE MONUMENTAL SEA LILY COLONY PRESERVED IN POSIDONIA SHALE, ONLY A HANDFUL OF COMPARABLE SPECIMENS EXIST GLOBALLY, MOST HELD BY INSTITUTIONS

This monumental fossil mural features a complete colony of crinoids — marine invertebrates colloquially known as "sea lilies" — that lived 180 million years ago in the prehistoric Tethys Ocean that covered much of present-day Europe and Asia. Found in the world-renowned Holzmaden Lagerstätte, this uncommonly complete colony of crinoids on driftwood has been preserved in full three-dimensional articulation and prepared in the workshop of the Urwelt-Museum Hauff in Holzmaden, Germany.

Living almost their entire lives attached to the piece of driftwood seen here, these crinoids flourished in a rich underwater world alongside other marine animals including fish, ammonites, and belemnites. As sessile filter feeders, crinoids relied on the movement of the driftwood or floating debris to which they were attached to venture into areas with adequate food supply. Crinoids were nevertheless able to bend their stalks and flex and extend their arms — the five central appendages in their crowns — so that their mouths could face the water current to capture potential food.

Crinoids bred once a year when their eggs or sperm were released into the water. Once the eggs were released from the parent and fertilized, the resulting embryo would attach itself to a solid substrate such as driftwood where it would develop for several days into a barrel-shaped, free swimming larva. After several more days, the larva would reattach to the driftwood and develop a rudimentary stem, mouth, and five small arm-like tentacles known as podia. After several more weeks, the crinoid would reach the stalked, sessile stage, where it formed true arms, feather-like pinnules, and a complete set of podia that covered the pinnules and helped move food toward the mouth. After about a year of life, the crinoid would become fertile and produce either eggs or sperm, thus continuing the propagation of the species.

Eventually, these crinoids succumbed to death and became buried on the sea floor, where the low-oxygen environment allowed for their pristine preservation and fossilization. Over millions of years, the sediment and animal remains surrounding this crinoid colony petrified and became the dark grey Posidonia shale seen here, now famously extracted from the quarries of Holzmaden, Germany.

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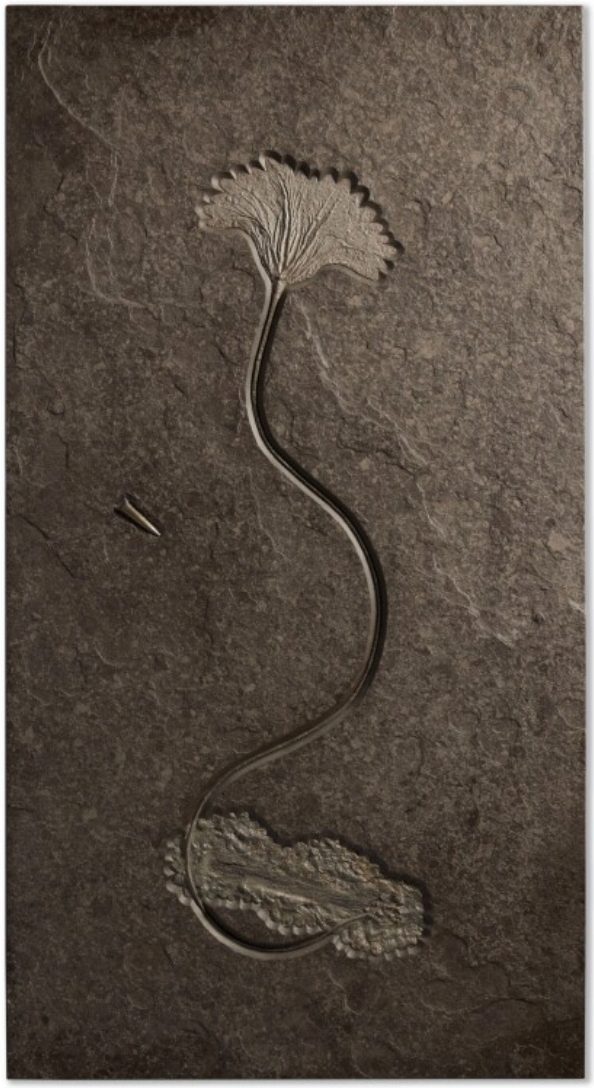
New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST



6

Sea Lily (Crinoid) Mural With Belemnite

Early Jurassic Period (approx. 180 million years ago), Holzmaden, Germany

Estimate:25,000 - 35,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Sea Lily (Crinoid) Mural With Belemnite
Seirocrinus subangularis and Passaloteuthis sp.
Early Jurassic Period (approx. 180 million years ago)
Holzmaden, Germany

58½ x 31½ x 1 inches (148.6 x 80 x 2.5 cm). Crinoid measures 44 inches (111.8 cm) in length, crown measures 11 inches (27.9 cm) in width. Belemnite measures 3 inches (7.6 cm) in length. 366 pounds (166 kg).

A single, large fossil sea lily (crinoid) attached to driftwood together with a belemnite shell (rostrum), both preserved intact on a trimmed slab.

CATALOGUE NOTE

This fossil mural features a large crinoid — a marine invertebrate colloquially known as a "sea lily" — alongside the bullet-shaped "guard" of an extinct, squid-like cephalopod known as a belemnite. Both of these animals lived 180 million years ago in the prehistoric Tethys Ocean that covered much of present-day Europe and Asia. Living almost its entire life attached to the piece of driftwood seen here, this crinoid flourished in a rich underwater world alongside other marine animals including fish, ammonites, and belemnites, such as the one featured. As sessile filter feeders, crinoids relied on the movement of the driftwood or floating debris to which they were attached to venture into areas with adequate food supply. Crinoids were nevertheless able to bend their stalks and flex and extend their arms — the five central appendages in their crowns — so that their mouths could face the water current to capture potential food.

Crinoids bred once a year when their eggs or sperm were released into the water. Once the eggs were released from the parent and fertilized, the resulting embryo would attach itself to a solid substrate such as driftwood where it would develop for several days into a barrel-shaped, free swimming larva. After several more days, the larva would reattach to the driftwood and develop a rudimentary stem, mouth, and five small arm-like tentacles known as podia. After several more weeks, the crinoid would reach the stalked, sessile stage, where it formed true arms, feather-like pinnules, and a complete set of podia that covered the pinnules and helped move food toward the mouth. After about a year of life, the crinoid would become fertile and produce either eggs or sperm, thus continuing the propagation of the species.

Eventually, this crinoid and belemnite pair succumbed to death and became buried on the sea floor, where the low-oxygen environment allowed for their pristine preservation and fossilization. Over millions of years, the sediment and animal remains surrounding these two animals petrified and became the dark grey Posidonia shale seen here, now famously extracted from the quarries of Holzmaden, Germany.

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7

Parkinsonia Ammonite Block With Fossil Mollusks

Middle Jurassic Period, Bajocian Stage (approx. 171-168 million years ago), Fresney-le-Puceux, Normandy, France

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Parkinsonia Ammonite Block With Fossil Mollusks
Parkinsonia sp., Trigonia sp., Pleurotomaria sp., and other unidentified mollusk shells
Middle Jurassic Period, Bajocian Stage (approx. 171-168 million years ago)
Fresney-le-Puceux, Normandy, France

17½ x 12 x 5½ inches (41.9 x 30.5 x 14 cm), 21 inches (53.3 cm) tall on stand. Largest ammonite measures 5 inches (12.7 cm) in diameter. 29 pounds (13.2 kg).

This interesting fossil display exhibits the remains of Parkinsonia ammonites prepared sculpturally on their original rock together with extinct mollusks of various species. All are in very good to excellent condition with details clearly visible.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Alongside trilobites and dinosaurs, ammonites are among the most iconic fossils. They were an extremely diverse group, with scientists estimating that between 10,000 and 20,000 different species of ammonites lived during their nearly 150-million-year reign, from the beginning of the Jurassic Period approximately 200 million years ago to the end of the Cretaceous Period 66 million years ago. Ammonites were cephalopods, a class of mollusk that includes present-day nautilus, octopus, and squid. The genus of ammonite featured here, *Parkinsonia*, thrived during the Middle Jurassic approximately 170 million years ago, and some of the finest *Parkinsonia* fossils can be found in England and France, as is the case here.

This species of ammonite is named after James Parkinson, the British naturalist and medical doctor best known for his early descriptions of the "Shaking Palsy," i.e., Parkinson's Disease. Parkinson was highly regarded in his time for his book *Organic Remains* (1804-11) in which he discussed fossil plants and animals, the history of paleontology, and theories of animal creation and extinction decades before the Darwinian revolution in the second half of the 19th century. Indeed, in the third volume of his book, Parkinson described an ammonite very similar to the ones displayed here as having, "a discoidal, spiral, multinodular shell, with turns contiguous...the chambers divided by sinuous septa."

The outermost layer of ammonite shells was made up of aragonite, a type of calcium carbonate, which provided strong protection and allowed ammonites to fossilize much more readily than animals that either had a soft shell or lacked a shell. Because ammonites rapidly evolved into new species and their shells were prone to fossilization, they have been crucial for scientists interested in dating the Earth's layers: finding the same species of ammonite in layers of soil thousands of miles apart implies that those layers are from the same time period in Earth's history.

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

8

Large Lobolytoceras Ammonite

Late Jurassic Period, Oxfordian Stage (approx. 161-154 million years ago), Sakaraha, Madagascar

Estimate:5,000 - 8,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Large Lobolytoceras Ammonite
Lobolytoceras costellatum
Late Jurassic Period, Oxfordian Stage (approx. 161-154 million years ago)
Sakaraha, Madagascar

24 x 18 x 7½ inches (61 x 45.7 x 19.1 cm), 30.5 inches (77.5 cm) tall on stand. 140 pounds (63.5 kg).

This massive, well-preserved ammonite fossil exhibits exceptional character and quality seldom seen. It is complete without distortion, well-prepared and polished to reveal the complex suture pattern.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Alongside trilobites and dinosaurs, ammonites are among the most iconic fossils. Ammonites swam the seas freely during the Jurassic and Cretaceous Periods, evolving rapidly and leaving abundant examples in the fossil record. Scientists estimate that there were at least 10,000 species of ammonite during their roughly 150 million year reign on Earth, and possibly up to 20,000 species.

The outermost layer of ammonite shells was made up of aragonite, a type of calcium carbonate, which provided strong protection and allowed ammonites to fossilize much more readily than animals that either had a soft shell or lacked a shell. Because ammonites rapidly evolved into new species and their shells were prone to fossilization, they have been crucial for scientists interested in dating the Earth's layers: finding the same species of ammonite in layers of soil thousands of miles apart implies that those layers are from the same time period in Earth's history.

Ammonites were cephalopods, a class of mollusk that includes present-day nautilus, octopus, and squid. *Lobolytoceras* lived during the Late Jurassic, roughly 161 to 154 million years ago. This fossil shows gorgeous and intricate suture lines where the walls separating each chamber, known as septa, joined the wall of the shell. Although scientists once believed that the intricate suture lines strengthened the shell and supported the animals in deep water, it is now believed that the suture lines helped with buoyancy regulation and made it harder for predators to puncture their shells. Ammonite suture lines are unique to each species, and thus the patterns on different ammonites can be used for identification.

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

9

Large Kranaosphinctes Ammonite With Fossil Mollusk

Late Jurassic Period, Oxfordian Stage (approx. 161-154 million years ago), Madagascar

Estimate:4,000 - 6,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Large Kranaosphinctes Ammonite With Fossil Mollusk
Kranaosphinctes rabei and unidentified mollusk shell
Late Jurassic Period, Oxfordian Stage (approx. 161-154 million years ago)
Madagascar

19 x 18 x 9 inches (48.3 x 45.7 x 22.9 cm), 23¾ inches (60.3 cm) tall on stand affixed through center of specimen. 100 pounds (45.4 kg).

This robust fossil shell belonging to a Kranaosphinctes ammonite exhibits sculptural qualities. It is complete, without distortion, and matrix-free. It remains in its natural state, but with a polished surface highlighting its pronounced protuberances, ribs, and spirals. An unidentified fossil mollusk is present at the shell opening (aperture).

CATALOGUE NOTE

Alongside trilobites and dinosaurs, ammonites are among the most iconic fossils. Ammonites swam the seas freely during the Jurassic and Cretaceous Periods, evolving rapidly and leaving abundant examples in the fossil record. Ammonites were cephalopods, a taxonomic class that includes today's nautilus, octopus, and squid. They used a long, tubular organ known as a siphuncle to fill or empty their chambers with water and thus move up or down in the water column. Apart from the siphuncle, the animal lived solely in the outermost chamber.

The outermost layer of ammonite shells was made up of aragonite, a type of calcium carbonate, which provided strong protection and allowed ammonites to fossilize much more readily than animals that either had a soft shell or lacked a shell. In the case of the *Kranaosphinctes* offered here, its aragonite shell has developed a beautifully nacreous and pearlescent outer layer.

Kranaosphinctes lived during the Late Jurassic Period, approximately 161 to 154 million years ago. Because ammonites rapidly evolved into new species and their shells were prone to fossilization, they have been crucial for scientists interested in dating the Earth's layers: finding the same species of ammonite in layers of soil thousands of miles apart implies that those layers are from the same time period in Earth's history.

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10

Cleoniceras Ammonite

Early Cretaceous Period, Albian Stage (approx. 110 million years ago), Mahajanga, Madagascar

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Cleoniceras Ammonite
Cleoniceras sp.
Early Cretaceous Period, Albian Stage (approx. 110 million years ago)
Mahajanga, Madagascar

13 x 11 x 2 inches (33 x 27.9 x 5.1 cm), 16 inches (40.6 cm) tall on stand. 16 pounds (7.3 kg).

A well-preserved ammonite shell polished to exhibit its interesting and complex suture patterns. The shell is naturally compressed, a normal feature of *Cleoniceras* fossils.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Alongside trilobites and dinosaurs, ammonites are among the most iconic fossils. Ammonites swam the seas freely during the Jurassic and Cretaceous Periods, evolving rapidly and leaving abundant examples in the fossil record. Scientists estimate that there were at least 10,000 species of ammonite during their roughly 150-million-year reign on Earth, and possibly up to 20,000 species.

The outermost layer of ammonite shells was made up of aragonite, a type of calcium carbonate, which provided strong protection and allowed ammonites to fossilize much more readily than animals that either had a soft shell or lacked a shell. Because ammonites rapidly evolved into new species and their shells were prone to fossilization, they have been crucial for scientists interested in dating the Earth′s layers: finding the same species of ammonite in layers of soil thousands of miles apart implies that those layers are from the same time period in Earth′s history.

Ammonites are cephalopods, a class of mollusk that includes present-day nautilus, octopus, and squid. *Cleoniceras* lived during the Albian Stage of the Early Cretaceous Period, roughly 110 million years ago. This fossil shows gorgeous and intricate suture lines where the walls separating each chamber, known as septa, joined the wall of the shell. Although scientists once believed that the intricate suture lines strengthened the shell and supported the animals in deep waters, it is now believed that the suture lines helped with buoyancy regulation and made it harder for predators to puncture their shells. Ammonite suture lines are unique to each species, and thus the patterns on different ammonites help with species identification.

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

11

Ceratosaurus

A Mounted Juvenile Ceratosaurus Skeleton, Late Jurassic, Kimmeridgian Stage (approx. 154-149 million years ago)

Estimate:4,000,000 - 6,000,000 USD

∏ Monumental Item ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Ceratosaurus nasicornis
Late Jurassic, Kimmeridgian Stage (*approx. 154-149 million years ago*)
Morrison Formation, Bone Cabin Quarry (West), Albany County, Wyoming, USA

An exceptional, exhibition-ready mounted skeleton, measuring approximately 6 feet 3 inches in height, and approximately 10 feet 8 inches in length. Consisting of 139 original fossil bone elements with additional sculpted materials, the skeleton boasts a superb virtually complete skull (57 fossil bone elements). Judging from the delicate, fine nature of the bone structure, and the overall size and degree of bone development, it can be determined that the skeleton belonged to a juvenile individual.

The bones are fully mineralized with a dark grey to black coloration, and the fossilization is superb with even small, delicate bones being preserved in fine detail. Each skull bone is extraordinarily complete, including the lower jaws with both upper and lower dentition. In addition to the incredible 43 teeth present in the dentaries, there are 5 loose rooted teeth. The diagnostic horned nasals are distinct and well preserved, and the orbital ridge-shaped horns are also intact and discernible.

The specimen was meticulously prepared to the highest standards, showcasing the fossil's natural beauty. Accurately articulated anatomically, the skeleton is professionally mounted in an action pose on a custom metal armature with jaws open, displaying its formidable dentition.

The skeleton is offered with full rights, and the offering includes full documentation certifying condition, authenticity, and legality of ownership, as well as detailed 3D scans of the full skeleton, and x-rays of the skull and its individual elements.

Photography: Matthew Sherman

PROVENANCE

Excavated on privately owned land by Western Paleontological Laboratories at Bone Cabin Quarry (West), Wyoming, USA, in 1996;
Acquired by the Museum of Ancient Life, Thanksgiving Point, Utah;
De-accessed by the above, 2024;
Fossilogic, LLC, acquired from the above in 2024;
Finished and mounted by the above from 2024-25

EXHIBITION

Exhibited (unrestored and not mounted) at the Museum of Ancient Life, Thanksgiving Point, Utah from 2000-2024

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12

Pterodactylus Fossil Plates (Positive & Negative)

Late Jurassic Period, Kimmeridgian Stage (approx. 155-150 million years ago), Solnhofer Plattenwerk Victor Henle Quarry, Mörnsheim, Eichstätt District, Bavaria, Germany

Estimate:70,000 - 100,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Pterodactylus Fossil Plates (Positive & Negative)
Pterodactylus sp.
Late Jurassic Period, Kimmeridgian Stage (approx. 155-150 million years ago)
Solnhofer Plattenwerk Victor Henle Quarry, Mörnsheim, Eichstätt District, Bavaria, Germany

Pterodactylus specimen measures 9 inches (22.9 cm) in length, from top of head to end of toes. Head measures 4 inches (10.2 cm) in length, from back of head to tip of beak. Positive plate (on right) measures 11½ x 7 x ⅝ inches (29.2 x 17.8 x 1.6 cm), negative plate (on left) measures 12¼ x 7 x ⅝ inches (31.1 x 17.8 x 1.6 cm). Plates weigh 8 pounds (3.6 kg) combined.

This fossil represents a virtually complete skeleton of *Pterodactylus*, preserved in positive and negative slabs of split limestone. The skeleton is articulated with most of the bones in place, lying flat with appendages partially extended. The skull is laterally positioned allowing the cranial openings and jaws to be viewed. The delicate wings are close to the body. The fossil is in a raw state, unfinished and without restoration, and the occurrence of dendrites can be seen all over. The natural condition of this specimen is highly desirable to the purist collector.

PROVENANCE

From the collection of the owner of the Solnhofer Plattenwerk Victor Henle Quarry, Mörnsheim, Eichstätt District, Bavaria, Germany

EXHIBITION

Jura Museum, Willibaldsburg Castle, Eichstätt, Germany

CATALOGUE NOTE

AN EXTREMELY RARE AND REMARKABLY WELL-PRESERVED PTERODACTYL FOSSIL IN ITS NATURAL CONDITION, FROM THE FAMED SOLNHOFEN LIMESTONE OF BAVARIA, GERMANY

Pterodactyls ("winged finger") were the first pterosaur to be discovered, a group that encompasses all ancient flying reptiles. Close relatives of the dinosaurs, they branched off from a shared ancestor about 230 million years ago, independently following their own evolutionary path. About 80 million years before birds appeared, pterosaurs evolved into the first vertebrates capable of powered flight, and gained air superiority over the feathered dinosaurs and birds during the Mesozoic Era before going extinct approximately 66 million years ago at the end of the Cretaceous Period.

The paleontological history of pterosaurs began with the identification of a *Pterodactylus* fossil much like this one from Solnhofen, Germany in 1784. The fossil record indicates that pterosaurs were covered in hair-like filaments that insulated their bodies against the cold, providing strong evidence that these animals were warm-blooded. In addition, pterosaurs had hollow bones containing air sacs that formed part of their respiratory system. Although their hollow bones made them lightweight and helped pterosaurs become the dominant flying animals during their time, they also made fossilization extremely rare. As a result, fewer than three dozen pterodactyl fossil specimens have ever been recovered.

A magnificent characteristic of these extremely well-preserved positive and negative fossil plates is the presence of iron and manganese dendrites encircling much of the skeleton. A feature of some fossils from Solnhofen, these fractal-like crystals appear when mineral-rich water fills in microscopic cracks in the limestone and then evaporates, leaving the metallic solids behind.

In 2022, the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) included the fossil sites of the Solnhofen limestone in its first list of 100 Geological Heritage

Sites. The rise of industrial extraction, alongside a significant decline in quarrying activity, means that new and important fossil discoveries in the Solnhofen limestone are becoming increasingly rare.

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13

Horseshoe Crab Trace Fossil With Preserved "Death March"

Late Jurassic Period, Kimmeridgian Stage (approx. 155-150 million years ago), Solnhofen, Germany

Estimate:12,000 - 18,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Horseshoe Crab Trace Fossil With Preserved "Death March"
Mesolimulus walchi
Late Jurassic Period, Kimmeridgian Stage (approx. 155-150 million years ago)
Solnhofen, Germany

55½ x 29½ x 1⅛ inches (141 x 74.9 x 2.9 cm). Horseshoe crab measures 6⅝ x 3⅝ inches (16.8 x 9.2 cm). Mortichnial trackway ("Death March") measures 54 inches (137.2 cm). 130 pounds (59 kg).

A fossil mortichnial trackway indisputably made by an extinct horseshoe crab. This interesting trace fossil is in good condition showing the body mold of the crab at the end of its trail. The limestone plate is rigged on the back for both vertical and horizontal wall hanging.

CATALOGUE NOTE

THE PRESERVED ″DEATH MARCH″ OF AN ANCIENT HORSESHOE CRAB

Horseshoe crabs first appeared approximately 445 to 440 million years ago, at the boundary between the Ordovician and Silurian Periods of the Paleozoic Era. Often referred to as ″living fossils,″ present-day *Limulus* horseshoe crabs look extremely similar to their *Mesolimulus* ancestors, including the *Mesolimulus walchi* specimen seen here.

This trace fossil was produced by a horseshoe crab that lived approximately 155 million years ago in the Solnhofen limestone of Bavaria, Germany. Examples of similar specimens from Solnhofen can be found in most prominent natural history museums and collections around the world. While the outline of the head, abdomen, tail, and opisthosomal spines of this specimen are all extremely well-defined, it is the 4-and-a-half-foot trace of this animal′s mortichnial trackway, or ″death march,″ that makes this fossil quite a rarity and something that many other collections cannot match.

Mortichnial trackways provide crucial information about the behavior of animals when they were alive. This is why trace fossils — also known as ichnofossils — are so valuable to researchers, museums, and collectors: whether it is the death marches of horseshoe crabs or the footprints of dinosaurs, they give us important information about ancient animal locomotion that skeletons and bones often cannot provide.

Presumably, this horseshoe crab fell into the oxygen-depleted environment of the ancient Solnhofen lagoon and quickly began asphyxiating as it walked along the muddy and stagnant bottom of this relatively lifeless environment. However, what killed the horseshoe crab is also what helped to preserve it: the anoxic environment of Solnhofen made it an ideal place to preserve fossils, without the deterioration, decay, and predation that hamper fossilization in oxygen-rich environments.

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14

Large Fossil Ichthyodectid Fish

Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 87-82 million years ago), Niobrara Formation, Kansas

Estimate:60,000 - 90,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Large Fossil Ichthyodectid Fish
Ichthyodectidae – species unidentified
Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 87-82 million years ago)
Niobrara Formation, Kansas

72½ x 22⅜ x 6⅞ inches (184.2 x 56.8 x 17.5 cm), skeleton measures 64 x 18 x 3.5 inches (162.6 x 45.7 x 8.9 cm) in relief. 121 pounds (54.9 kg).

Possibly a vintage preparation of a virtually complete large fish skeleton with right side exposed and articulated in matrix, remounted and framed in good condition. The articulated skull is particularly well preserved, although the fins may be incomplete or moderately distorted. Framed and rigged for wall hanging.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A VIRTUALLY COMPLETE FOSSIL FISH SKELETON FROM THE CRETACEOUS PERIOD

Ichthyodectid fish were a successful group of predatory fish that reached their peak during the Late Cretaceous Period. They could grow to lengths of 20 feet or more and dominated the Western Interior Seaway that covered much of what is now North America approximately 85 million years ago.

The best known ichthyodectid is *Xiphactinus*, and the example seen here represents a closely related but exceedingly more rare species possibly *Ichthyodectes* or *Gillicus*. This specimen shows remarkable preservation of the right side of the body, skull, and jaw. Like other ichthyodectids, this specimen shows the characteristic elongate body, powerful tail, and powerfully built bulldog-like jaws, qualities that made these fish extremely efficient hunters during their nearly 100 million years here on Earth.

Ichthyodectids experienced a marked decline at the end of the Cretaceous Period, alongside mosasaurs and other marine reptiles who had also dominated the seas during that time. Their decline is often considered a primary factor in allowing sharks to become the apex ocean predator beginning in the Early Paleogene Period, about 60 to 65 million years ago.

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15

Brachylophosaurus Tail Vertebrae With Skin Impressions and Preserved Tendons

Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 78-75 million years ago), Judith River Formation, Phillips Co., Montana

Estimate:60,000 - 90,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Brachylophosaurus Tail Vertebrae With Skin Impressions and Preserved Tendons
Brachylophosaurus canadenis
Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 78-75 million years ago)
Judith River Formation, Phillips Co., Montana

30½ x 29½ x 6 inches (77.5 x 74.9 x 15.2 cm), 33 inches (83.8 cm) tall on stand. 224 pounds (101.6 kg).

A tail section with seven nearly complete tail vertebrae (caudals) with associated chevrons and ossified tendons articulated as discovered, with visible skin impressions preserved in detailed wrinkles and folds "draped" over the chevrons. The centrum of the anterior caudal vertebra is incomplete, and distal ends of two chevron bones are missing. The bones are partially imbedded in the original matrix.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A REMARKABLY WELL-PRESERVED SET OF BRACHYLOPHOSAURUS TAIL VERTEBRAE WITH SKIN IMPRESSIONS AND TENDONS

Brachylophosaurus, or "short-crested lizard," was a duck-billed dinosaur that roamed the area of what is now northern Montana and southern Alberta during the Late Cretaceous Period approximately 78 to 75 million years ago. This specimen was discovered in the Judith River Formation, home to one of the best-preserved and most diverse dinosaur fauna in the world. The first dinosaur remains were found there in 1855 by geologist Ferdinand V. Hayden (1829-87) who was conducting a survey of the area. Hayden's discoveries soon attracted many early American paleontologists, including such luminaries as Edward Drinker Cope (1840-97), who went on to name several dinosaurs from the partial remains he discovered. In recent years, researchers working in the area have recovered some of the best preserved dinosaur fossil remains, including those of *Tyrannosaurus rex* and *Brachylophosaurus canadensis*.

Almost all the fossil remains that survive the geological forces and great distances of time that separate us from the dinosaurs are bones and fragments of bones. For soft body parts such as skin to survive the fossilization process is extremely rare. Most commonly, the soft tissue of an animal decomposes long before it can be preserved, leaving behind only the hard tissues: bones, horns, and teeth. In this specimen, seven large, nearly complete tail (caudal) vertebrae have been almost perfectly preserved, with associated chevrons, ossified tendons, and skin impressions.

The skin impressions seen here are an entirely natural cast, formed in the stone matrix that surrounds the skeleton. The few specimens that display detailed skin impressions have provided invaluable evidence for the study of these creatures. Indeed, the present piece, with its detailed preservation of individual scales, provides an incredibly rare glimpse into the look of these long-lost creatures. In addition to skin impressions, several ossified tendons have been preserved on the top left

section of the chevrons, another incredible feature of this exquisitely preserved fossil.

Brachylophosaurus was an extremely large animal, growing up to 36 feet in length, and weighing as much as 7 tons. It had a helmet-like crest on the top of its head, which was likely used in "head-butting" contests with competitors. The groundbreaking discovery of partially preserved, or "mummified," specimens transformed our understanding of the species. In the year 2000, Dan Stephenson, an amateur paleontologist, discovered Leonardo, a fully articulated and partially mummified skeleton of a sub-adult Brachylophosaurus, with preserved soft tissues and even stomach contents, making it invaluable for scientific study. Testing on Leonardo confirmed that Brachylophosaurus was an herbivore, with a diet consisting of leaves, conifers, ferns, and flowering plants.

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16

Very Large Iridescent Ammonite

Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 71 million years ago), Bearpaw Formation, Alberta, Canada

Estimate:50,000 - 70,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Very Large Iridescent Ammonite
Placenticeras costatum
Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 71 million years ago)
Bearpaw Formation, Alberta, Canada

21¼ x 18¾ x 2 inches (54 x 47.6 x 5.1 cm), 27¼ inches (69.2 cm) tall on stand. 27 pounds (12.2 kg).

A very large, exceptional specimen displaying superb mineralization in ammolite on both faces, with shimmering and iridescent reds, greens, yellows, blues, and purples. The colors shift in hue and intensity as they diffract light from different viewing angles. 61 pounds (27.7 kg) in total with marble display base.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A RAINBOW AMMONITE PRESERVED IN SHIMMERING AMMOLITE GEMSTONE

Placenticeras ("flat horn") was a fast-swimming, predaceous cephalopod — a taxonomic class that includes present-day nautilus, octopus, and squid. Much like a submarine, ammonites employed gas- and liquid-filled chambers to regulate their position in the water column. The animal itself lived only in the outermost compartment, employing its tubular siphuncle to connect its chambers along the shell's ventral surface.

While dinosaurs ruled the land during the Late Cretaceous Period, *Placenticeras* flourished in the oceans and spanned the globe. However, the vast majority of these species resided in the Western Interior Seaway, an ocean that cut North America in half from the Arctic Circle to what is now the Gulf of Mexico. In ideal circumstances for preservation, a recently-deceased ammonite would sink to the bottom of the sea and become covered in sediment. Over time, its muddy tomb would become converted to shale, and it is these ancient shale deposits in the Canadian Rockies that yield the world's most significant — and *only* gem-quality — ammolite deposits.

Along with amber and pearl, ammolite is one of the world's only biogenic gems. Resembling inorganic opal, it is found exclusively in the shells of ammonites that have undergone the fossilization process known as permineralization.

The quality of gem ammolite is determined by a number of factors, first and foremost being its number of primary colors: reds and greens are somewhat more common, whereas blues and purples are more rare. Also of great significance is the range of the ammolite's chromatic shift, graded by the way its colors change in hue and intensity as they diffract light when viewed from different angles. Lastly, the ammolite's magnitude of iridescence impacts its quality and value, with the finest specimens displaying large and uninterrupted swaths of lustrous, rainbow-like colors. On each of these

metrics, this very large specimen's ammolite is first-rate.

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17

Gorgosaurus Claw

Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 76 million years ago), Judith River Formation, Hill Co., Montana

Estimate:15,000 - 20,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Gorgosaurus Claw
Gorgosaurus libratus
Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 76 million years ago)
Judith River Formation, Hill Co., Montana

4 inches (10.2 cm) in length, measured along the upper (dorsal) curve from the extensor tubercle to the tip.

Complete foot claw (ungual phalanx) preserving the nerve groove, flexor tubercle, tip, and surface detail. A minor repair is visible close to the tip, otherwise the claw is complete without restoration. Fossil coloration is brownish ochre.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A FOOT CLAW FROM THE FASTER AND MORE AGILE COUSIN OF T. REX

Gorgosaurus ("dreadful lizard") was a predatory dinosaur closely related to *Tyrannosaurus rex*. It was a bipedal, apex carnivore that lived approximately 76 million years ago in what is now western North America. Although the approximately 20 known specimens of *Gorgosaurus* indicate that it was smaller and lighter than its relative *T. rex* — and about 9-10 million years older — it was likely much faster and fiercer than its bulkier cousin.

While popular depictions of *T. rex* portray it as having been a fast runner, clocking in at speeds of over 40 miles per hour, current scholarship indicates that it was in fact somewhat slower, plodding along at speeds closer to 12-20 miles per hour. This is in contrast to *Gorgosaurus* which, with its powerful legs and relatively slender build, was a much more agile and well-balanced dinosaur. Scientists believe it could attain speeds of up to 30 m.p.h., useful for hunting hadrosaurs in its usual habitat of forested floodplains with coastal swamps and marshes.

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18

The Skull of a Pachycephalosaurus

Late Cretaceous Period, Maastrichtian Stage (approx. 72 to 66 million years ago), Hell Creek Formation, Perkins Co., South Dakota

Estimate:800,000 - 1,200,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

The Skull of a Pachycephalosaurus
Pachycephalosaurus wyomingensis
Late Cretaceous Period, Maastrichtian Stage (approx. 72 to 66 million years ago)
Hell Creek Formation, Perkins Co., South Dakota

This outstanding specimen, measuring approximately 21 inches long, 15½ inches high, and 10½ inches wide, represents a virtually complete skull plus dentition belonging to a *Pachycephalosaurus* dinosaur, consisting of an incredible 32 cranial bones, plus the atlas, both hyoid bones, two premaxillary fangs, and two maxillary teeth. The articulated bones of the skull are preserved in good detail, showing much of their original shape and surface ornamentation. The left side of the skull, the orbits and infratemporal fenestra including the surrounding bones (supraorbital, postorbital, jugal, quadrate, etc.) around these openings are mostly intact, with small sections of the right side of the skull restored and reconstructed, including the lower jaws.

This specimen displays cranial features characteristic of the species including the well-developed dome with clusters of horns on the nasal, jugal, and squamosal. The specimen belonged to a fairly mature individual based on the proportionately large dome against the short squamosal horns, overall size, and fusion of cranial bones.

PROVENANCE

Excavated in 2024 on privately owned land in the Hell Creek Formation, Perkins County, South Dakota

CATALOGUE NOTE

Pachycephalosaurus is the largest and best known of the dome-headed dinosaurs, and can only be found in North America. The most infrequently occurring fossil from the Late Cretaceous of North America, it represents less than 1% of fossils found in the Hell Creek Formation. In contrast, *Triceratops* fossils represent 40%. There are fewer than twenty-five, mostly incomplete, *Pachycephalosaurus* skulls housed in institutions and private collections, making this virtually complete skull an incredibly important find.

THE CALLING CARD OF A FAMOUS DINOSAUR

Though their distinctive domed skulls are famous among dinosaurs, *Pachycephalosaurus* (“thick headed lizard”) remain shrouded in mystery. The present lot demonstrates the most famous aspect of an already famous dinosaur: its iconic skull, with which in art and exhibition, *Pachycephalosaurus* is often portrayed using to ram its natural enemy *T. rex*.

Notably, this skull features a virtually complete upper jaw, demonstrating the dinosaur’s unusual teeth. *Pacycephalosaurus* were herbivorous, though the unusual sharpness and structure of their teeth have led some scientists to believe that these creatures may have been omnivorous.

A CASE OF MISTAKEN IDENTITY

The first fragments of *Pachycephalosaurus* remains were discovered in the early 1860s by American fossil collector Ferdinand Vandeveer Hayden in what is now known as the Lance Formation in Montana. At the time, the paleontological community thought the remains could be those of an armadillo-like creature and named it *Tylosteus.* In 1943, Barnum Brown and Erich Maren Schlaikjer coined the name *Pachycephalosaurus* after more fossils were discovered. The original remains found by Vandeveer Hayden would not be associated with *Pachycephalosaurus* until the 1980s.

The confusion over the species persisted into the 2010s and present day as more and more researchers suggest

that other specimens believed to be separate species such as *Stygimoloch* and *Dracorex,* may instead be attributed to a juvenile *Pachycephalosaurus*.

LITERATURE:

- Horner JR, Goodwin MB, Myhrvold N (2011) *Dinosaur Census Reveals Abundant Tyrannosaurus and Rare Ontogenetic Stages in the Upper Cretaceous Hell Creek Formation (Maastrichtian), Montana*, USA. PLoS ONE 6(2): e16
- Horner JR, Goodwin MB (2009) *Extreme Cranial Ontogeny in the Upper Cretaceous Dinosaur Pachycephalosaurus.* PLoS ONE 4(10): e7626

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19

Articulated Tyrannosaurus Rex Foot

Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 67 million years ago), Hell Creek Formation, Garfield Co., Montana

Estimate:250,000 - 350,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Articulated Tyrannosaurus Rex Foot
Tyrannosaurus rex
Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 67 million years ago)
Hell Creek Formation, Garfield Co., Montana

Articulated foot measures 31 x 27¼ x 31½ inches (78.7 x 69.2 x 80 cm), 33½ x 27¼ x 32¾ inches (85.1 x 69.2 x 83.2 cm) on custom display mount. Foot bones weigh 84 pounds (38.1 kg) in total, 181 pounds (82.1 kg) combined with custom mount.

An associated foot skeleton (right pes) belonging to an adult individual exquisitely preserved without distortion, displaying the characteristic arctometatarsalian morphology (pinched metatarsal 3). Proximal edge of metatarsal 2 and 4 show weathered surfaces. Each digit shows minor pathology or injury during life. A few repairs visible but without restoration. The fossil is ochre–dark sienna in coloration. The impressive foot bones are mounted in articulation on a custom metal stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

THE EXQUISITELY PRESERVED RIGHT FOOT OF A TYRANNOSAURUS REX

Tyrannosaurus rex is the largest and heaviest two-legged predator ever to have existed, reigning supreme as the dominant and undisputed land predator during its time on Earth approximately 67 million years ago. Offered here is a complete and incredibly well-preserved articulated skeleton of the right foot of an adult *T. rex*. The biomechanics of the feet and legs of these animals were an evolutionary masterpiece, allowing *T. rex* to keep its massive body balanced on two legs while standing, running, and hunting.

Tyrannosaurs had proportionally the longest feet of any other large, carnivorous dinosaur, with ligaments that strengthened the soles of their feet near their toes, allowing them to move at speeds higher than their massive size would suggest. Recently studied footprints indicate that these predators also had substantial soft tissue on the undersides of their feet, protecting their hindlimbs through natural cushioning and modifying the shape of their feet to be much less angular than those of other dinosaurs. They bore much of their weight on their toes, primarily the central front digit, which scientists believe gave them the ability to dig into the ground for increased grip. In these ways and more, the feet of *Tyrannosaurus rex* were critical to its unparalleled predatory dominance.

In 1902, the first *T. rex* fossils were unearthed in the Hell Creek Formation — where this specimen was found — by Barnum Brown ("Mr. Bones"), a paleontologist with the American Museum of Natural History. In 1905, Henry Fairfield Osborn, President of the American Museum of Natural History and Barnum Brown's employer, said in reference to one of Brown's finds:

"I propose to make this animal the type of the new genus, Tyrannosaurus, in reference to its size, which far exceeds that of any carnivorous land animal hitherto described...This animal is in fact the ne plus ultra of the evolution of the large carnivorous dinosaurs: in brief it

is entitled to the royal and high sounding group name which I have applied to it."

On 30 December 1905, the New York Times dubbed *Tyrannosaurus rex* "The Prize Fighter of Antiquity." And indeed, no animal elicits a combination of fascination, fear, and reverence quite like that of the "tyrant lizard king." Its lethal combination of powerful hind limbs and bone-crushing bite force led *T. rex* to dominate the western landscape of Late Cretaceous North America, hunting virtually every large dinosaur in its environment including *Triceratops*, *Ankylosaurus*, *Ornithomimus*, *Pachycephalosaurus*, *Edmontosaurus*, and even other tyrannosaurs.

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20

The Dentary of Tyrannosaurus Rex

Late Cretaceous Period, Maastrichtian Stage (approx. 67 million years ago) Hell Creek Formation, Dawson County, Montana

Estimate:200,000 - 300,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

The Dentary of a Tyrannosaurus Rex
Tyrannosaurus Rex
Late Cretaceous Period, Maastrichtian Stage (approx. 67 million years ago)
Hell Creek Formation, Dawson County, Montana, USA

Complete dentary of a fully-grown *Tyrannosaurus rex* with 5 erupted teeth. Dentary measures 20.5 inches long by 9 inches high from the tip of the tallest tooth to the bottom of the jaw. 15 inches high on custom metal armature.

Judging from the overall size and degree of the bone development, it can be determined that this mandible belonged to a large, mature individual. The bones are preserved in exquisite detail, exhibiting little distortion, and retaining much of their original shape and surface characteristics. The fossilization is superb, with normal foramina and nutrient grooves visible.

The five teeth emerging from the bone are well-preserved and measure approximately 4.75 inches, 4.25 inches, 2.5 inches, 2.75 inches, and 1 inch respectively. All have complete crowns and intact enamel, serrations, and tips without repair or restoration. The enamel exhibits a walnut brown patina.

PROVENANCE

Excavated in 2024 on privately owned land in the Hell Creek Formation, Dawson County, Montana

CATALOGUE NOTE

THE EXCEPTIONAL COMPLETE RIGHT DENTARY OF A FULLY GROWN TYRANNOSAURUS REX, WITH FIVE ERUPTED TEETH

T. rex's five-foot-long skull was packed with 60 teeth and featured a bone-crushing bite force of nearly 13,000 pounds per square inch, the strongest of any terrestrial animal other than its ancestor, *Gorgosaurus*. The present lot demonstrates the secret behind that terrifying force.

This mandible displays the elegant structures that transformed the *T. rex*'s incredible bite. The dentary features five lethal teeth in various stages of growth. Like Great White Sharks, *Tyrannosaurus rex* constantly shed and grew new teeth. This process is apparent in the present lot, with five teeth in various stages of eruption.

In comparison to other carnivorous theropods, *Tyrannosaurus rex* teeth are proportionately huge. Robust and thickly-enameled crowns strengthened dozens of teeth, with serrations on both the posterior and anterior edges. The almost unrivaled power of this 40-foot-long (12.2 m) apex predator allowed it to hunt virtually every large dinosaur in its environment,
including *Triceratops*, *Ankylosaurus*, *Ornithomimus*, *Pachycephalosaurus*, *Edmontosaurus*, and even other tyrannosaurs.

Tyrannosaurus rex had an intramandibular joint (IMJ) in its lower jaw. Previously, scientists believed this joint was flexible like those of snakes or monitor lizards, which would help the predators keep struggling prey in their grasp. Recent research using CT scans and 3D modelling suggests that this IMJ was firm, helping to steady the jaw, and that this joint's structure was exactly what enabled the staggering bite force for which the King Tyrant is known. The prearticular bone, which runs along the inside of the jaw, counteracted the strain on the joint (Fortner et al).

LITERATURE

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21

Exceptionally Large Tooth of a Tyrannosaurus Rex

Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 67 million years ago) Hell Creek Formation, Garfield Co., Montana

Estimate:40,000 - 60,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Exceptionally Large Tooth of a Tyrannosaurus rex
Tyrannosaurus rex
Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 67 million years ago)
Hell Creek Formation, Garfield Co., Montana

6 inches (15.2 cm) in length, measured base to tip along anterior edge, including partially preserved root. 7½ inches (19.1 cm) tall on stand.

This outstanding specimen represents an exceptionally large and well-preserved maxillary tooth. The crown is robust and complete with intact enamel showing several fine stress fissures. The fragmented root is without restoration. The serrations show wear, and the tip shows minor wear but is complete. The enamel exhibits a rich walnut brown patina.

PROVENANCE

Excavated by "Lucky" Luke Phipps on his family's privately owned land in the Hell Creek Formation, Garfield County, Montana

CATALOGUE NOTE

AN EXTREMELY LONG AND ROBUST UPPER TOOTH FROM THE MOST FEARSOME DINOSAUR EVER TO LIVE

No animal elicits a combination of fascination, fear, and reverance quite like that of *Tyrannosaurus rex*, the "tyrant lizard king." Dominating the western landscape of Late Cretaceous North America, *T. rex*'s five-foot-long skull was packed with 60 teeth and featured a bone-crushing bite force of nearly 13,000 pounds per square inch, the strongest of any terrestrial animal other than *Gorgosaurus*, its tyrannosaur relative. In comparison to other carnivorous theropods, *Tyrannosaurus rex* teeth are proportionally huge. Robust and thickly-enameled crowns strengthened dozens of teeth, with serrations on both the posterior and anterior edges. The almost unrivaled power of this 40-foot-long (12.2 meter) apex predator allowed it to hunt virtually every large dinosaur in its environment, including *Triceratops*, *Ankylosaurus*, *Ornithomimus*, *Pachycephalosaurus*, *Edmontosaurus*, and even other tyrannosaurs.

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

22

Tyrannosaurus Rex Tooth

Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 67 million years ago), Lance Formation, Niobrara Co., Wyoming

Estimate:30,000 - 50,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Tyrannosaurus Rex Tooth
Tyrannosaurus rex
Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 67 million years ago)
Lance Formation, Niobrara Co., Wyoming

4.96 inches (12.6 cm) in length, measured base to tip along anterior edge. 8 inches (20.3 cm) tall on stand.

A well-preserved tooth with complete crown and intact enamel, serrations, and tip without repair or restoration. The enamel exhibits a walnut brown patina.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A LONG AND WELL-PRESERVED TOOTH FROM THE KING OF THE DINOSAURS

No animal elicits a combination of fascination, fear, and reverance quite like that of *Tyrannosaurus rex*, the "tyrant lizard king." Dominating the western landscape of Late Cretaceous North America, *T. rex*'s five-foot-long skull was packed with 60 teeth and featured a bone-crushing bite force of nearly 13,000 pounds per square inch, the strongest of any terrestrial animal other than *Gorgosaurus*, its tyrannosaur relative. In comparison to other carnivorous theropods, *Tyrannosaurus rex* teeth are proportionally huge. Robust and thickly-enameled crowns strengthened dozens of teeth, with serrations on both the posterior and anterior edges. The almost unrivaled power of this 40-foot-long (12.2 meter) apex predator allowed it to hunt virtually every large dinosaur in its environment, including *Triceratops*, *Ankylosaurus*, *Ornithomimus*, *Pachycephalosaurus*, *Edmontosaurus*, and even other tyrannosaurs.

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23

Triceratops Brow Horn

Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 67 million years ago), Lance Formation, Niobrara Co., Wyoming

Estimate:12,000 - 18,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Triceratops Brown Horn
Triceratops horridus
Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 67 million years ago)
Lance Formation, Niobrara Co., Wyoming

20 x 7 x 5 inches (50.8 x 17.8 x 12.7 cm), 24 inches (61 cm) tall on vertical display stand. Horizontal display stand also included. 23 pounds (10.4 kg).

The fairly complete horn core preserves natural surface detail. The shaft clearly shows numerous deep branching grooves and pits (nutrient canals and foramina) which in life supplied blood to the outer horn sheath. The horn core shows no distortion of significant erosion.

CATALOGUE NOTE

The herbivorous *Triceratops* ("three-horned face") is undoubtedly one of the world's best-known and most popular dinosaurs, due to its distinctive bony frill, keratinous beak, and of course, its three-horned skull. Fearsome in appearance, their horns were long considered to serve a primarily defensive function, though recent studies suggest that the horns were also used in dominance displays and courtship rituals.

Triceratops are often depicted engaging in epic battles with *Tyrannosaurus rex*, and researchers have proposed that indentations found in some *T. rex* fossils were caused by *Triceratops* horns. Given that both dinosaurs lived in what is now Western North America approximately 67 million years ago during the Late Cretaceous Period, this is no idle speculation. However, one fact of which we can be reasonably certain is that *Triceratops* was one of the last dinosaurs alive before the extinction at the end of the Cretaceous Period. In 2011, researchers discovered a triceratops horn much like this one just 5 inches below the extinction boundary, providing strong evidence that at least some *Triceratops* were living at the time of the Chicxulub asteroid strike in the Yucatán 66 million years ago, the most likely cause of the Cretaceous extinction event and the demise of the dinosaurs.

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24

Nanotyrannus Tibia

Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 67 million years ago), Lance Formation, Niobrara Co., Wyoming

Estimate:6,000 - 9,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Nanotyrannus Tibia
Nanotyrannus lancensis
Late Cretaceous Period (approx. 67 million years ago)
Lance Formation, Niobrara Co., Wyoming

30 x 7½ x 6 inches (76.2 x 19.1 x 15.2 cm), 37 inches (94 cm) tall on stand. 26 pounds (11.8 kg).

Based on length, this is the complete lower leg bone (tibia) belonging to an adult individual. It is in fine condition, its surface exhibiting pitting from erosion or insect activity occurring after death. Muscle scars and articulating surfaces on both ends are intact. This fine specimen represents an uncommon find, as the hollow limb bones of theropods are seldom preserved intact unless they are quickly buried under ideal conditions.

CATALOGUE NOTE

The *Nanotyrannus* tibia offered here was excavated from the Lance Formation, where the first documented *Nanotyrannus* skull was found in 1942 by paleontologist David H. Dunkle, thus the species name *Nanotyrannus lancensis*. Although at that time the skull was believed to have belonged to *Gorgosaurus*, the specimen was later reclassified in 1988 by leading American paleontologist Robert Bakker.

Small in size compared to other tyrannosaurids, this "dwarf tyrant" has long been the subject of ongoing scientific debate as to whether it is its own distinct species of dinosaur, or whether all known specimens are merely juvenile *Tyrannosaurus rex*. While the paleontological community remains divided, the tide seems to have turned distinctly in favor of recognizing *Nanotyrannus*. In 2024, paleontologists Nicholas Longrich and Evan Saitta published a pathbreaking article in *Fossil Studies* arguing that *Nanotyrannus* is a distinct, small-bodied tyrannosaur that differs in 150 morphological characteristics from its larger relative.

REFERENCES:

Bakker, Robert T. and Michael Williams. "Nanotyrannus, a new genus of pygmy tyrannosaur, from the Latest Cretaceous of Montana," Hunteria, 1:5 (1988).

Longrich, Nicholas R. and Evan T. Saitta. "Taxonomic status of Nanotyrannus lancensis (Dinosauria: Tyrannosauroidea) — A distinct taxon of Small-bodied dinosaur," Fossil Studies 2:1 (2024).

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25

Uncommonly Large Lotus Lily Pad With Fossil Fish

Early Eocene Epoch (approx. 52-48 million years ago), Green River Formation, Wyoming

Estimate:40,000 - 60,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Uncommonly Large Lotus Lily Pad With Fossil Fish
Nelumbo sp.
Early Eocene Epoch (approx. 52-48 million years ago)
Green River Formation, Lincoln Co., Wyoming

27¾ x 23¼ x 2½ inches (70.5 x 59.1 x 6.4 cm) in frame. Lily pad measures 19 x 18 inches (48.3 x 45.7 cm). 29 inches (73.7 cm) tall on stand. 73 pounds (33.1 kg). Also rigged for wall mounting.

This exceptionally large lotus leaf (lily pad) is fairly complete, nicely preserved, and beautifully prepared exposed in matrix. The venation on the elliptical-shaped leaf is clear. A small section of the edge of the leaf is missing. Traces of fossil fish can be seen overlaying the lily pad and in the surrounding matrix.

CATALOGUE NOTE

AN EXCEPTIONALLY LARGE AND RARE LOTUS LILY PAD FROM THE GREEN RIVER FORMATION

Lily pads are an uncommon find in the Green River Formation. In addition, most lily pad discoveries at Fossil Lake measure between 4 and 8 inches in diameter. The current example measures a remarkable 19 inches, making it one of the larger specimens known. The veins of the lily pad are remarkably clear, and the skeletal remains of fossilized fish can be seen both on the surface of the leaf, and in the surrounding matrix.

Today, Fossil Basin in southwestern Wyoming is a rugged and harsh mountain environment. 50 million years ago, however, it was a subtropical lake bursting with life and lush vegetation. At the end of the Late Cretaceous approximately 66 million years ago, the impact of the Chicxulub asteroid resulted in a mass extinction, famous for wiping out the dinosaurs. Sea levels plummeted and tectonic uplift resulted in the dramatic loss of biodiversity, causing the demise of an estimated 75% of all living species.

In the wake of this destruction, Earth′s biota slowly began to renew itself in new and different forms. Sprouting from the ashes, flowering plants and trees began to diversify, along with the animals that pollinated and fed on them. Mammals returned in vast numbers, taking over from the dinosaurs and reptiles that once ruled the Earth. Teleost fish also expanded their dominance in all marine environments, and life in all forms developed towards what would become the major families and orders of all animals living today.

Of all the freshwater lake systems formed during this period, the most remarkable to appear was the Green River Lake System. At its height, it comprised three lakes — Lake Uinta, Lake Gosiute, and Fossil Lake — and lasted an incredible 12 million years. Today, the Fossil Butte Member preserves the geological and paleontological history of Fossil Lake, and is a must visit for paleobotanists interested in fossil flora.

Extant lotuses are often esteemed for their delicate and alluring fragrance. Fossil lotuses would also have been quite aromatic, raising their body temperature to release scent and thus attract pollinators. These pollinators, attracted to the increased heat and aroma coming from the lily pads, would have used them as places for rest as well as for mating.

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26

Fossil Palm Frond Plates (Positive & Negative)

Early Eocene Epoch (approx. 52-48 million years ago), Green River Formation, Lincoln Co., Wyoming

Estimate:15,000 - 25,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Fossil Palm Frond Plates (Positive & Negative)
Sabalites sp.
Early Eocene Epoch (approx. 52-48 million years ago)
Green River Formation, Lincoln Co., Wyoming

Left plate measures 88 x 31½ x 1¼ inches (223.5 x 80 x 3.2 cm), right plate measures 96 x 31½ x 1¼ inches (243.8 x 80 x 3.2 cm). Left plate weighs 136 pounds (61.7 kg), right plate weighs 148 pounds (67.1 kg). 284 pounds (128.8 kg) combined.

The *Sabalites* palm frond is well-preserved showing complete stem (petiole) and leaflets lacking most tips. This impressive frond is nicely preserved in positive and negative trimmed plates. The fossil slabs are irregularly-shaped.

CATALOGUE NOTE

50 million years ago, the Green River Formation comprised an area of more than 25,000 square miles (65,000 sq. km) of interconnected subtropical lakes spread across the current states of Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado. Today, the region of the Green River Formation known as "Fossil Lake" boasts some of the most abundant and well-preserved freshwater fossils anywhere in the world.

Finding plant fossils in Fossil Lake is particularly challenging because they rarely have any thickness to detect during excavation. Thus, the only way a plant such as palm frond is discovered is when a layer of rock is fortuitously split in just the right place, or if it is exposed in the laboratory as another fossil is being prepared. Because of the size and level of preservation of the palm frond found in this pair of plates, it is likely that it came from an ancient palm grove very close to the shore of Fossil Lake.

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27

Multi-Fish Triptych Mural

Early Eocene Epoch (approx. 52-48 million years ago), Green River Formation, Lincoln Co., Wyoming

Estimate:12,000 - 18,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Multi-Fish Triptych Mural
Notogoneus osculus, Diplomystus dentatus, Cockerellites liops, and Knightia eocaena
Early Eocene Epoch (approx. 52-48 million years ago)
Green River Formation, Lincoln Co., Wyoming

Each panel measures 54 x 24 x 2½ inches (137.2 x 61 x 6.4 cm), together 54 x 72 x 2½ inches (137.2 x 182.9 x 6.4 cm). Three panels together weigh 222 pounds (100.7 kg).

Three separate fossil fish mosaic murals assembled on a large natural slab of tan and gray Green River limestone matrix. Largest fish *(Notogoneus osculus)* is uncommon and measures 19¾ inches (50.2 cm) in length. Each mural is backed in wood with finished beveled edges for wall hanging.

CATALOGUE NOTE

50 million years ago, the Green River Formation comprised an area of more than 25,000 square miles (65,000 sq. km) of interconnected subtropical lakes spread across the current states of Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado. Today, the region of the Green River Formation known as "Fossil Lake" boasts some of the most abundant and well-preserved freshwater fossils anywhere in the world.

Highlights of this three-panel fossil triptych include *Notogoneus osculus*, an uncommon fossil and one of the only bottom feeders — alongside the two known stingray species — from the Green River Formation; a few well-preserved examples of the large surface feeder *Diplomystus dentatus*, characterized by its distinctive upturned mouth and V-shaped tail; the temperate bass *Cockerellites liops*; and *Knightia eocaena,* an extinct relative of the herring upon which *Diplomystus* would have predated.

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28

Fossil Fish Mural

Early Eocene Epoch (approx. 52-48 million years ago), Green River Formation, Lincoln Co., Wyoming

Estimate:15,000 - 25,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Fossil Fish Mural
Phareodus encaustus, Diplomystus dentatus, and Knightia eocaena
Early Eocene Epoch (approx. 52-48 million years ago)
Green River Formation, Lincoln Co., Wyoming

59 x 46 x 3¼ inches (149.9 x 116.8 x 8.3 cm). 256 pounds (116.1 kg).

A fossil fish mosaic mural assembled on a large slab of grey limestone matrix. Largest fish *(Phareodus encaustus)* measures 22¼ inches (56.5 cm) in length. Backed in wood with finished beveled edges for wall hanging.

CATALOGUE NOTE

50 million years ago, the Green River Formation comprised an area of more than 25,000 square miles (65,000 sq. km) of interconnected subtropical lakes spread across the current states of Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado. Today, the region of the Green River Formation known as Fossil Lake boasts some of the most abundant and well-preserved freshwater fossils anywhere in the world.

Highlights from this fossil fish mural include two wonderfully preserved example of the carnivorous, solitary hunter *Phareodus encaustus;* the large surface feeder *Diplomystus dentatus,* characterized by its distinctive upturned mouth and V-shaped tail; and a large array of *Knightia eocaena*, the state fossil of Wyoming and a fish upon which both *Phareodus* and *Diplomystus* would have predated.

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29

Fossil Stingray

Early Eocene Epoch (approx. 52-48 million years ago), Green River Formation, Lincoln Co., Wyoming

Estimate:5,000 - 8,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Fossil Stingray
Heliobatis radians
Early Eocene Epoch (approx. 52-48 million years ago)
Green River Formation, Lincoln Co., Wyoming

28¾ x 17 x ¾ inches (73 x 43.2 x 1.9 cm), stingray measures 21¾ x 10¼ inches (55.2 x 26 cm). 25 pounds (11.3 kg).

The specimen represents a fine example preserving in exquisite detail the cartilaginous skeleton. The flattened body outline is well-defined. The articulated skeleton is complete with its vertebrae including the tail and pelvic fins intact.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Heliobatis radians is one of two species of extinct freshwater stingray found in the Green River Formation's Fossil Lake, along with the more primitive *Asterotrygon maloneyi*. A rare species of fish, only slightly more than 1,000 examples of *Heliobatis* have been excavated. Named by famous Yale paleontologist O.C. Marsh in 1877, the *Heliobatis* holotype that Marsh recovered can now be found at Yale's Peabody Museum of Natural History.

Heliobatis is characterized by barbed "stings" at the end of a long, whip-like tail that can comprise up to half its total body length. As a bottom feeder, its teeth were adapted to prey on benthic creatures including mollusks, crayfish, and shrimp. The lack of claspers on the current specimen indicates that this was a female stingray.

Approximately 50 million years ago, *Heliobatis* thrived in the Green River Formation, an area that comprised more than 25,000 square miles (65,000 sq. km) of interconnected subtropical lakes spread across the current states of Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado. Today, the Green River Formation's Fossil Lake boasts some of the most abundant and well-preserved freshwater fossils anywhere in the world.

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30

Sandstone "Picturestone" Slab

Early Cretaceous Period (approx. 120 million years ago), Kanab, Utah

Estimate:10,000 - 15,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Sandstone "Picturestone" Slab
Early Cretaceous Period (approx. 120 million years ago)
Kanab, Utah

81½ x 36 x 1 inches (207 x 91.4 x 2.5 cm). 393 pounds.

CATALOGUE NOTE

This sandstone slab, mined along the Utah-Arizona border, is often termed ″picturestone″ in reference to the evocative landscapes and vistas that can be imagined within the rock. Made up of natural mineral deposits built up approximately 120 million years ago, the colors are the result of iron oxides proliferating throughout the piece.

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31

Very Large Gogotte Sandstone Formation

Oligocene Epoch (approx. 30 million years ago), Fontainebleau, France

Estimate:30,000 - 50,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Very Large Gogotte Sandstone Formation
Oligocene Epoch (approx. 30 million years ago)
Fontainebleau, France

36½ x 26½ x 13 inches (92.7 x 67.3 x 33 cm), 45 inches (114.3 cm) tall on stand. 321 pounds (145.6 kg).

This sculptural sandstone concretion is in excellent condition and nicely mounted on a custom metal stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A gogotte is a millions-of-years old, naturally-shaped sandstone formation, consisting of tiny quartz fragments held together by calcium carbonate. The finest specimens are found in Fontainebleau, France, renowned for its extremely fine-grained, porcelain-like sands. Each one of these natural mineralogical works of art takes on a unique form, often evoking clouds, whirlwinds, or living creatures.

Gogottes were a great inspiration to the Surrealists, as well as to artists Louise Bourgeois and Henry Moore, and have captured the imagination of some of the most powerful aristocrats and rulers. Louis XIV, the "Sun King," was so seduced by them that he had numerous specimens excavated to decorate the gardens at the Palace of Versailles, and a great number of the ornate formations could be found surrounding the mysterious Grove of the Three Fountains, built by French landscape architect André Le Nôtre in 1677. Destroyed during the time of Louis XVI, the Grove was reconstructed in 2004 with gogottes appearing in all their natural splendor, thanks to the patronage of *La Société des Amis de Versailles* and The American Friends of Versailles. A particularly well-preserved example of a gogotte sandstone formation is on display at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., and more recently, a particularly fine gogotte was donated to London's Natural History Museum to honor the 90th birthday of beloved naturalist David Attenborough.

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32

Large Gogotte Sandstone Formation

Oligocene Epoch (approx. 30 million years ago), Fontainebleau, France

Estimate:12,000 - 18,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Large Gogotte Sandstone Formation
Oligocene Epoch (approx. 30 million years ago)
Fontainebleau, France

29½ x 21½ x 8¼ inches (74.9 x 54.6 x 21 cm) tall on affixed base. 178 pounds (80.7 kg).

This sculptural sandstone concretion is in very good condition and affixed to a custom metal base.

CATALOGUE NOTE

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33

Gogotte Sandstone Formation

Oligocene Epoch (approx. 30 million years ago), Fontainebleau, France

Estimate:6,000 - 9,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Gogotte Sandstone Formation
Oligocene Epoch (approx. 30 million years ago)
Fontainebleau, France

21 x 20 x 10 inches (53.3 x 50.8 x 25.4 cm), 24½ inches (62.2 cm) tall on stand. 142 pounds (64.4 kg).

This sculptural sandstone concretion is in very good condition and nicely mounted on a custom metal stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A gogotte is a millions-of-years old, naturally-shaped sandstone formation, consisting of tiny quartz fragments held together by calcium carbonate. The finest specimens are found in Fontainebleau, France, renowned for its extremely fine-grained, porcelain-like sands. Each one of these natural mineralogical works of art takes on a unique form, often evoking clouds, whirlwinds, or living creatures.

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34

Massive Gogotte Sandstone Formation

Oligocene Epoch (approx. 30 million years ago), Fontainebleau, France

Estimate:5,000 - 8,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Massive Gogotte Sandstone Formation
Oligocene Epoch (approx. 30 million years ago)
Fontainebleau, France

28 x 26 x 16 inches (71.1 x 66 x 40.6 cm). 610 pounds (276.7 kg).

This sculptural sandstone concretion is in good condition and rests naturally without base or stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A gogotte is a millions-of-years old, naturally-shaped sandstone formation, consisting of tiny quartz fragments held together by calcium carbonate. The finest specimens are found in Fontainebleau, France, renowned for its extremely fine-grained, porcelain-like sands. Each one of these natural mineralogical works of art takes on a unique form, often evoking clouds, whirlwinds, or living creatures.

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

35

Gogotte Sandstone Formation

Oligocene Epoch (approx. 30 million years ago), Fontainebleau, France

Estimate:4,000 - 6,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Gogotte Sandstone Formation
Oligocene Epoch (approx. 30 million years ago)
Fontainebleau, France

19¼ x 17½ x 4½ inches (48.9 x 44.5 x 11.4 cm), 21½ inches (54.6 cm) tall on affixed stand. 93 pounds (42.2 kg).

This sculptural sandstone concretion is in very good condition and affixed to a custom metal stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A gogotte is a millions-of-years old, naturally-shaped sandstone formation, consisting of tiny quartz fragments held together by calcium carbonate. The finest specimens are found in Fontainebleau, France, renowned for its extremely fine-grained, porcelain-like sands. Each one of these natural mineralogical works of art takes on a unique form, often evoking clouds, whirlwinds, or living creatures.

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36

Gogotte Sandstone Formation

Oligocene Epoch (approx. 30 million years ago), Fontainebleau, France

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Gogotte Sandstone Formation
Oligocene Epoch (approx. 30 million years ago)
Fontainebleau, France

18½ x 11 x 8¾ inches (47 x 27.9 x 22.2 cm), 21¼ inches (54 cm) tall on stand. 100 pounds (45.4 kg).

This sculptural sandstone concretion is in good condition with custom metal stand through center of specimen.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A gogotte is a millions-of-years old, naturally-shaped sandstone formation, consisting of tiny quartz fragments held together by calcium carbonate. The finest specimens are found in Fontainebleau, France, renowned for its extremely fine-grained, porcelain-like sands. Each one of these natural mineralogical works of art takes on a unique form, often evoking clouds, whirlwinds, or living creatures.

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37

Mural of Fossilized Saint-Jacques Shells

Early Miocene Epoch, Burdigalian Stage (approx. 20-16 million years ago), Lacoste Quarry, Vaucluse, France

Estimate:5,000 - 8,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Mural of Fossilized Saint-Jacques Shells
Gigantopecten restitutensis
Early Miocene Epoch, Burdigalian Stage (approx. 20-16 million years ago)
Lacoste Quarry, Vaucluse, France

32 x 28 x 7 inches (81.3 x 71.1 x 17.8 cm). 229 pounds (103.9 kg).

The shells in this decorative display are intact and well preserved, many with both halves articulated. The shells are exposed on a trimmed rectangular slab with nonuniform sides.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Gigantopecten restitutensis — also known as Saint-Jacques shells — was a species of giant scallop that thrived all over the world during the Early Miocene, from approximately 20 million to 16 million years ago. Like today's scallops, *Gigantopecten* was a saltwater mollusk that lived mainly on the sea floor, filtering and eating plankton. In addition, fossil scallops — like their living descendants — moved using a form of jet propulsion, clapping their shells together rapidly to expel water out through their rear hinge area.

Gigantopecten had relatively large calcite shells, growing to heights of over five inches (13 cm) with widths topping six inches (15 cm). Because of the considerable size and fragility of *Gigantopecten* fossils, their removal from the surrounding rock matrix represents the highest caliber of excavation and preparatory work.

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38

Statue of Fossilized Saint-Jacques Shells

Early Miocene Epoch, Burdigalian Stage (approx. 20-16 million years ago), Lacoste Quarry, Vaucluse, France

Estimate:4,000 - 6,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Statue of Fossilized Saint-Jacques Shells
Gigantopecten restitutensis
Early Miocene Epoch, Burdigalian Stage (approx. 20-16 million years ago)
Lacoste Quarry, Vaucluse, France

25½ x 23½ x 7 inches (64.8 x 59.7 x 17.8 cm), 26 inches (66 cm) tall on custom stand. 180 pounds (81.6 kg).

The shells in this decorative display are intact and well preserved, most with both halves articulated. Bottom left shell shows evidence of minor flaking. The shells are exposed on a trimmed slab, with custom wood display stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Gigantopecten restitutensis — also known as Saint-Jacques shells — was a species of giant scallop that thrived all over the world during the Early Miocene, from approximately 20 million to 16 million years ago. Like today's scallops, *Gigantopecten* was a saltwater mollusk that lived mainly on the sea floor, filtering and eating plankton. In addition, fossil scallops — like their living descendants — moved using a form of jet propulsion, clapping their shells together rapidly to expel water out through their rear hinge area.

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39

Bouquet of Fossilized Saint-Jacques Shells

Early Miocene Epoch, Burdigalian Stage (approx. 20-16 million years ago), Lacoste Quarry, Vaucluse, France

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Bouquet of Fossilized Saint-Jacques Shells
Gigantopecten restitutensis
Early Miocene Epoch, Burdigalian Stage (approx. 20-16 million years ago)
Lacoste Quarry, Vaucluse, France

16½ x 14½ x 7 inches (41.9 x 36.8 x 17.8 cm), 20½ inches (52.1 cm) tall on stand. 24 pounds (10.9 kg).

A sculptural display with well-preserved and intact shells with both halves articulated. The shells are exposed on both sides of the matrix affixed to a gold-colored stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Gigantopecten restitutensis — also known as Saint-Jacques shells — was a species of giant scallop that thrived all over the world during the Early Miocene, from approximately 20 million to 16 million years ago. Like today's scallops, *Gigantopecten* was a saltwater mollusk that lived mainly on the sea floor, filtering and eating plankton. In addition, fossil scallops — like their living descendants — moved using a form of jet propulsion, clapping their shells together rapidly to expel water out through their rear hinge area.

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40

Megalodon Shark Tooth — Virginia

Miocene Epoch (approx. 23-5.3 million years ago), Eastover Formation, Nottoway River, Southampton Co., Virginia

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Megalodon Shark Tooth — Virginia
Otodus megalodon
Miocene Epoch (approx. 23-5.3 million years ago)
Eastover Formation, Nottoway River, Southampton Co., Virginia

121 mm (4.76 inches) from tip to corner of right root, 118 mm (4.65 inches) from tip to corner of left root. 89 mm (3.50 inches) at widest point. 130 mm (5.125 inches) on stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Otodus megalodon (formerly known as *Carcharodon megalodon*) was a giant prehistoric shark that roamed the open seas, armed with huge, serrated, razor-sharp teeth. The largest predatory shark ever to have lived, *Otodus megalodon* grew up to three times the size of its closest living relative, the modern great white shark. Because estimates are based solely on teeth and fragmentary vertebral remains, upper size limits of this apex carnivore range from 40 to 60 feet (12 to 18 m) in length, with estimated weights ranging between 40,000 and 120,000 pounds (18 to 54 metric tons).

Regardless of exact bodily dimensions, *Otodus megalodon* ranks among the largest predators ever to grace the face of the Earth. With a name meaning ″big tooth″ and a bite force more than double that of *Tyrannosaurus rex*, it is no wonder that *Otodus megalodon* is considered the greatest predatory fish of all time.

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41

Megalodon Shark Tooth — Georgia

Miocene Epoch (approx. 23-5.3 million years ago), Hawthorne Formation, St. Marys River, Camden Co., Georgia

Estimate:4,000 - 6,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Megalodon Shark Tooth — South Carolina
Otodus megalodon
Miocene Epoch (approx. 23-5.3 million years ago)
Hawthorne Formation, St Mary's River, Camden Co., Georgia

157 mm (6.18 inches) from tip to corner of right root, 149 mm (5.87 inches) from tip to corner of left root. 114 mm (4.50 inches) at widest point. 171 mm (6.75 inches) on stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Otodus megalodon (formerly known as *Carcharodon megalodon*) was a giant prehistoric shark that roamed the open seas, armed with huge, serrated, razor-sharp teeth. The largest predatory shark ever to have lived, *Otodus megalodon* grew up to three times the size of its closest living relative, the modern great white shark. Because estimates are based solely on teeth and fragmentary vertebral remains, upper size limits of this apex carnivore range from 40 to 60 feet (12 to 18 m) in length, with estimated weights ranging between 40,000 and 120,000 pounds (18 to 54 metric tons).

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42

Megalodon Shark Tooth — South Carolina

Miocene Epoch (approx. 23-5.3 million years ago), Ashepoo River, Colleton Co., South Carolina

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Megalodon Shark Tooth — South Carolina
Otodus megalodon
Miocene Epoch (approx. 23-5.3 million years ago)
Ashepoo River, Colleton Co., South Carolina

127 mm (5.00 inches) from tip to corner of right root, 123 mm (4.84 inches) from tip to corner of left root. 89 mm (3.50 inches) at widest point. 143 cm (5.63 inches) on stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Otodus megalodon (formerly known as *Carcharodon megalodon*) was a giant prehistoric shark that roamed the open seas, armed with huge, serrated, razor-sharp teeth. The largest predatory shark ever to have lived, *Otodus megalodon* grew up to three times the size of its closest living relative, the modern great white shark. Because estimates are based solely on teeth and fragmentary vertebral remains, upper size limits of this apex carnivore range from 40 to 60 feet (12 to 18 m) in length, with estimated weights ranging between 40,000 and 120,000 pounds (18 to 54 metric tons).

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43

Megalodon Shark Tooth — Georgia

Miocene Epoch (approx. 23-5.3 million years ago), Hawthorne Formation, Cane Patch Creek, Chatham Co., Georgia

Estimate:4,000 - 6,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Megalodon Shark Tooth — Georgia
Otodus megalodon
Miocene Epoch (approx. 23-5.3 million years ago)
Hawthorne Formation, Cane Creek Patch, Chatham Co., Georgia

139 mm (5.47 inches) from tip to corner of left root, 118 mm (5.35 inches) from tip to corner of right root. 114 mm (4.50 inches) at widest point. 152 mm (6.00 inches) on stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Otodus megalodon (formerly known as *Carcharodon megalodon*) was a giant prehistoric shark that roamed the open seas, armed with huge, serrated, razor-sharp teeth. The largest predatory shark ever to have lived, *Otodus megalodon* grew up to three times the size of its closest living relative, the modern great white shark. Because estimates are based solely on teeth and fragmentary vertebral remains, upper size limits of this apex carnivore range from 40 to 60 feet (12 to 18 m) in length, with estimated weights ranging between 40,000 and 120,000 pounds (18 to 54 metric tons).

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44

Petrified Slice of Colla Wood

Miocene Epoch (approx. 23-5.3 million years ago), Zile, Turkey

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Petrified Slice of Colla Wood
Miocene Epoch (approx. 23-5.3 million years ago)
Zile, Turkey

13½ x 9¼ x ¾ inches (34.3 x 23.5 x 1.6 cm), 11¾ inches (29.8 cm) on stand. 10 pounds (4.54 kg).

Sliced and polished section of fossilized colla wood, stabilized with mesh on the reverse. Display side condition is excellent and without damage or restoration.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Colla wood is a rare type of petrified wood found only near the Black Sea town of Zile, Turkey. Having fossilized over an active copper deposit, copper-bearing minerals such as azurite, malachite, and chrysocolla (hence the name ″colla wood″) absorbed into the wood, slowly replacing the original organic material and creating vibrant streaks of blue and green. Other minerals — such as chalcedony and hematite — produce red, brown, and white accents in colla wood, as can be seen in the specimen offered here.

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45

Large Cave Bear Skeleton

Late Pleistocene Epoch (approx. 30,000 years ago), Eastern Europe

Estimate:30,000 - 50,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Large Cave Bear Skeleton
Ursus spelaeus
Late Pleistocene Epoch (approx. 30,000 years ago)
Eastern Europe

106 x 38 x 28 inches (269.2 x 96.5 x 71.1 cm) on custom red lacquer base with metal stabilizing rod. Skull measures 23 x 12½ x 11½ inches (58.4 x 31.8 x 29.2 cm).

This skeleton belonged to a large, robust individual with bones in very good condition, nicely cleaned showing little to no damage or restoration work. The skull is an exceptionally good example displaying the cranial characteristics of this extinct species, comprising a long snout and larger forehead in comparison to living brown bears (*Ursus arctos)*.

CATALOGUE NOTE

The *Ursus spelaeus,* or cave bear, is an ancient species of bear that inhabited Europe and went extinct about 24,000 years ago, during the most recent ice age. It takes its name from the Latin *spelaeus,* meaning cave, as unlike other species of bear who seemed to dwell in caves only during hibernation, the cave bear appears to have spent the majority of its life in caves, as evidenced by the fact that nearly all fossils have been found in caves. The cave bear was the largest of the cave dwelling animals, weighing on average between 800-1300 pounds, although some could grow as large as 2,200 pounds, and reach heights of over 11 feet tall.

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46

Paleolithic (Acheulean) Banded Flint Handaxe

Lower Paleolithic (approx. 700,000-300,000 years ago), Longueil-Sainte-Marie, Oise, France

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Paleolithic (Acheulean) Banded Flint Handaxe
Produced by *Homo heidelbergensis*
Lower Paleolithic (approx. 700,000-300,000 years ago)
Longueil-Sainte-Marie, Oise, France

5½ x 3¾ x 1⅜ inches (14 x 9.5 x 3.5 cm), 6½ inches (16.5 cm) on stand.

A large and extremely well preserved orange and brown banded flint handaxe (biface) knapped on both sides, showing collection marks of the original field collector, Jean-Claude Debenne.

PROVENANCE

Formerly in the collection of Jean-Claude Debenne (1936-2020).
Included with a license from the French Cultural Ministry.

CATALOGUE NOTE

THE ORIGINS OF HUMAN TECHNOLOGY

Homo heidelbergensis is an extinct species of archaic human that lived in Europe, Africa, and possibly Asia from approximately 700,000 to 300,000 years ago. The species is named after the town of Heidelberg, Germany, where the first specimen was discovered in 1907, and named shortly thereafter by anthropologist Otto Schoetensack. *Homo heidelbergensis* is considered to be the most recent common ancestor between modern humans and Neanderthals.

Although stone toolmaking has been attributed to both *Homo habilis* and various australopithecines between 2.5 and 1.5 million years ago, the Acheulean stone tool industry of *Homo erectus* and *Homo heidelbergensis* constituted a technological revolution, best characterized by the handaxe as offered here (see also Lots 47 and 48). Acheulean handaxes were the first stone tools to be worked symmetrically on both sides, and would have been used for cutting, hunting, butchering, and digging in soil. The shaping of two-sided handaxes – also known as bifaces – through the process of knapping (removing flakes around the core of a stone) is a complex skill that archaeologists have attributed to increased prefrontal brain activity and a high degree of working memory, both vital to the development of modern human cognition.

REFERENCES:

De la Torre, Ignacio. “The Origins of the Acheulean: Past and Present Perspectives on a Major Transition in Human Evolution.” *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B* 371, no. 1698 (2016): 1–13.

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47

Paleolithic (Acheulean) Flint Handaxe With Fossil Inclusions

Lower Paleolithic (approx. 700,000-300,000 years ago), France

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Paleolithic (Acheulean) Flint Handaxe With Fossil Inclusions
Produced by *Homo heidelbergensis*
Lower Paleolithic (approx. 700,000-300,000 years ago)
France

6¾ x 3¼ x 2 inches (17.1 x 8.3 x 5.1 cm), 7¾ inches (19.7 cm) on stand.

A large and well preserved white flint handaxe (biface) with evidence of fossil inclusions and knapped on both sides. A French collection stamp is affixed to the specimen.

PROVENANCE

Formerly in the collection of François Bigot (1950-2009).
Included with a license from the French Cultural Ministry.

CATALOGUE NOTE

THE ORIGINS OF HUMAN TECHNOLOGY

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EXHIBITED:

ArtAncient, *Before Art*, Frieze Masters, London, 2023, no. 10.

REFERENCES:

De la Torre, Ignacio. “The Origins of the Acheulean: Past and Present Perspectives on a Major Transition in Human Evolution.” *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B* 371, no. 1698 (2016): 1–13.

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48

Paleolithic (Acheulean) Quartzite Handaxe

Lower Paleolithic (approx. 700,000-300,000 years ago), Oise, France

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ☋ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Paleolithic (Acheulean) Quartzite Handaxe
Produced by *Homo heidelbergensis*
Lower Paleolithic (approx. 700,000-300,000 years ago)
Oise, France

6½ x 4 x 1½ inches (16.5 x 10.2 x 3.8 cm), 7¾ inches (19.7 cm) on stand.

A large and extremely well preserved orange, brown, and black quartzite handaxe (biface) knapped on both sides.

PROVENANCE

Formerly in the collection of Jean-Claude Debenne (1936-2020).
Included with a license from the French Cultural Ministry.

CATALOGUE NOTE

THE ORIGINS OF HUMAN TECHNOLOGY

Homo heidelbergensis is an extinct species of archaic human that lived in Europe, Africa, and possibly Asia from approximately 700,000 to 300,000 years ago. The species is named after the town of Heidelberg, Germany, where the first specimen was discovered in 1907, and named shortly thereafter by anthropologist Otto Schoetensack. *Homo heidelbergensis* is considered to be the most recent common ancestor between modern humans and Neanderthals.

Although stone toolmaking has been attributed to both *Homo habilis* and various australopithecines between 2.5 and 1.5 million years ago, the Acheulean stone tool industry of *Homo erectus* and *Homo heidelbergensis* constituted a technological revolution, best characterized by the handaxe as offered here (see also Lots 46 and 47). Acheulean handaxes were the first stone tools to be worked symmetrically on both sides, and would have been used for cutting, hunting, butchering, and digging in soil. The shaping of two-sided handaxes – also known as bifaces – through the process of knapping (removing flakes around the core of a stone) is a complex skill that archaeologists have attributed to an increase in prefrontal brain activity and a high degree of working memory, both vital to the development of modern human cognition.

REFERENCES:

De la Torre, Ignacio. “The Origins of the Acheulean: Past and Present Perspectives on a Major Transition in Human Evolution.” *Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B* 371, no. 1698 (2016): 1–13.

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https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/paleolithic-acheulean-quartzite-handaxe

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

49

Neanderthal Tool Set

Middle Paleolithic (approx. 300,000-40,000 years ago), Fontmort (Fontmaure), France

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Neanderthal Tool Set
Produced by *Homo neanderthalensis*
Middle Paleolithic (approx. 300,000-40,000 years ago)
Fontmort (Fontmaure), France

A set of four multi-colored jasper tools consisting of handaxes (bifaces) and scrapers, ranging in size from 2 to 2½ inches (52 to 65 mm) in length. Evidence of flake-knapping from a prepared core. Collection marks on two of the four tools indicate Fontmort (Fontmaure), Vienne, Central France collection site.

PROVENANCE

Field collected in Fontmort (Fontmaure), Vienne, Central France.
Subsequently in the collection of Michel Geslin, President of the *Amis du Musée de Préhistoire du Grand-Pressigny*.
Included with a license from the French Cultural Ministry.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A GORGEOUS SET OF MULTI-COLORED JASPER TOOLS MADE BY THE NEANDERTHALS, OUR CLOSEST HUMAN RELATIVES

Neanderthals (*Homo neanderthalensis*) are the closest extinct relative of modern humans, having lived from approximately 400,000 to 40,000 years ago throughout Europe and Asia. Despite being shorter and stockier on average than modern humans, their brains were as large or larger than ours. Modern humans of European and Asian origin have between 1-4% Neanderthal DNA, and recent studies have shown that modern humans of African origin also share Neanderthal DNA, providing evidence that *Homo sapiens* traveled back and forth between Europe, Asia, and Africa after interbreeding with Neanderthals.

The Neanderthal stone toolmaking industry - formally known as the Mousterian - defined the Middle Paleolithic in Europe and was more developed and complex than the Acheulean handaxe industry of the Lower Paleolithic (see Lots 46, 47, and 48). Neanderthal stone tools were varied in shape and purpose, with blades, handaxes, and spears for hunting and butchering being common, alongside scrapers and awls that would have been used to clean and sew together animal hides for clothing. The set of tools offered here includes both handaxes and scrapers.

These Neanderthal tools were field collected in Fontmort (Fontmaure), Vienne, Central France. The tools found at Fontmort are unique and can be distinguished by their being crafted out of multi-colored jasper, a type of Cretaceous microcrystalline quartz. These tools were previously in the collection of Michel Geslin, President of the *Amis du Musée de Préhistoire du Grand-Pressigny*, and are included with a license from the French Cultural Ministry.

REFERENCES:

Pradel, Louis. *Les Gisements de Fontmaure. Paléolithique Inférieur, Moustérien de Tradition Acheuléenne, Moustérien Final à Lames*. Toulouse,

France: Institut d'Art Préhistorique de la Faculté des Lettres et Sciences Humaines de Toulouse, 1967.

Wilson, Richard. "Eschewing Bear Tracks: Fallacies, Figure-Stones and Fontmaure." *Rock Art Research* 35, no. 2 (2018): 145–79.

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50

Neolithic Stone Axe

Late Neolithic (approx. 4500-3500 BCE), Normandy, France

Estimate:6,000 - 9,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Neolithic Stone Axe
Produced by *Homo sapiens*
Late Neolithic (approx. 4500-3500 BCE)
Normandy, France
...

6¾ x 2⅝ x 1½ inches (17 x 6.7 x 3.8 cm), 7½ inches (19.1 cm) on stand.

An exceptional stone axe sculpted from a piece of mottled green-black diorite, with elongated teardrop form and convex sides, gently rounded blade and pointed butt. Handwritten labels reading "Saint Saëns" and "St Denis Diorite," also found in ink on one side of the axe.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Stone axes were ubiquitous during the Neolithic, from about 5500 to 3500 B.C.E. Axes were essential to the clearing and cultivation of the European landscape as it was covered with thick forests that needed to be felled and tamed in order to plant crops and graze livestock. In addition, axes would have been used to build houses, boats, and fences.

Many of the Neolithic stone axes found in Europe show evidence of use, either from being chipped and flaked, or being worn down considerably on the blade end. These axes would most likely have been fitted into the hole of a ″haft,″ a long wooden handle resembling that of a modern axe. However, this axe is incredibly smooth and without obvious signs of wear. As such, it was most likely a ritual or ″prestige″ axe, used for either religious purposes or to be interred in a grave.

The importance of prestige axes cannot be overstated: to create an axe with this level of polish would have taken days of grinding and finishing by a skilled craftsperson. And to use a stone of the quality of this diorite only shows how important this axe would have been.

This axe and its handwritten tags are remarkably similar to the cache of diorite axes found in the collection of Alexis Damour, now housed at the Muséum de Toulouse in France. Damour was a 19th century French mineralogist and prehistorian of some renown who was president of the *Société géologique de France* and whose remaining collection can be found at the Toulouse Museum. Although it is unknown whether this current example passed through Damour′s hands, the fact that diorite axes of this type and quality were of interest to Damour shows how important they were to prehistorians of the 19th century and early 20th centuries, which is when this example would have been collected.

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

51

Ancient Cypriot Bone Idol

Early to Middle Bronze Age (2700-1900 BCE) or Cypro-Archaic (750-475 BCE), Cyprus

Estimate:10,000 - 15,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Ancient Cypriot Bone Idol
Produced by *Homo sapiens*
Early to Middle Bronze Age (2700-1900 BCE) or Cypro-Archaic (750-475 BCE)
Cyprus

7 x 1¾ x 1¼ inches (17.8 x 4.4 x 3.2 cm), 7¾ inches (19.7 cm) on custom metal stand.

The bone is an artiodactyl canon bone or metatarsal missing both proximal and distal ends, otherwise intact. Based on size and slenderness it may have belonged to a wild goat (Capra aegagrus).

PROVENANCE

Formerly in the Cypriot art collection of zoologist and ethnologist Desmond Morris (1928-).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A RARE CYPRIOT BONE IDOL FORMERLY IN THE COLLECTION OF FAMED ZOOLOGIST DESMOND MORRIS

Formerly in the collection of famed zoologist and ethnologist Desmond Morris, this ancient Cypriot bone idol represents a stylized human-like figure, possibly the deity Inanna (Ishtar). Evincing a highly geometric form, the eyes are incised as two concentric circles around a dot; the mouth as two parallel lines; eyebrows are represented by hatched lines; and the top of the head incised with horizontal lines topped with a series of chevrons indicating a headdress or hairstyle.

This figure shares a remarkable affinity with the ″eye idols″ of Tell Brak, Syria, where such items were most likely offerings to the Mesopotamian gods. In the Chalcolithic Period and Early Bronze Age, immigrants and traders would likely have brought their gods with them from the Near East to Cyprus, and this idol may well represent Inanna (Ishtar), the goddess of love, fertility, and war.

Stylized images of the human form are iconic of early Cypriot art. In modifying the human form to emphasize its significant or symbolic features, Cypriot artists established their own identity, distinct from the naturalistic depictions of their neighbors in Egypt or Mesopotamia. Moreover, different styles can be grouped according to the period in which they were made, from the tall and slender figures of the Chalcolithic Period (4000-2400 BCE), to the blocky plank figures of the Early and Middle Bronze Ages (2400-1600 BCE). Despite their differences, many of these depictions have been associated with fertility, spiritual protection, or ancestor worship.

The former owner of this bone idol, the celebrated author of *The Naked Ape*, Desmond Morris (1928-) became fascinated by the art of ancient Cyprus ″the moment [he] walked into Room Two of the Cyprus Museum in Nicosia...″ As he later recalled, ″There I found vessels and figurines exuding a cheerful inventiveness of such warmth and intensity that I

became immediately infatuated..." Returning to England, he set out to curate a remarkable collection. For Morris, the "rich playfulness" of the ancient Cypriot artists, "their bold self-confidence in experimenting with novel shapes...their imaginative verve in developing highly stylized forms" were a revelation. Over nine years, he amassed 1100 objects, curating the finest collection of Cypriot work outside of Cyprus. Encouraged by Vassos Karageorghis, then director of the Department of Antiquities of the Republic of Cyprus, he published his collection in the seminal work, *The Art of Ancient Cyprus* (1985), illustrating it with his own drawings and photographs.

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52

Tourmaline Slice

Alakamisy Itenina Commune, Vohibato District, Haute Matsiatra, Madagascar

Estimate:60,000 - 90,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Tourmaline Slice
Alakamisy Itenina Commune, Vohibato District, Haute Matsiatra, Madagascar

15 x 15 x .5 cm (5⅞ x 5⅞ x ⅜ inches). 266 grams (.59 lb)

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53

Pyrite

Navajún, La Rioja, Spain

Estimate:10,000 - 15,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Pyrite
Navajún, La Rioja, Spain

18 x 15 x 15 cm (7⅛ x 5⅞ x 5⅞ inches). 1.54 kg (3.40 lb).

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54

Amethyst

Artigas, Artigas Department, Uruguay

Estimate:10,000 - 15,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Amethyst
Artigas, Artigas Department, Uruguay

18 x 24 x 16 cm (7⅛ x 9½ x 6¼ inches). 6.15 kilograms (13.6 pounds).

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55

Stibnite

Wuning Mine, Qingjiang, Wuning Co., Jiujiang Pref., Jianxi Prov., China

Estimate:15,000 - 25,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Stibnite
Wuning Mine, Qingjiang, Wuning Co., Jiujiang Pref., Jianxi Prov., China

21 x 18.5 x 8 cm (8¼ x 7¼ x 3⅛ inches). 1.262 kg (2.78 lb).

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56

Gold on Quartz

Eagle's Nest Mine, Forest Hill, Placer County, California, USA

Estimate:20,000 - 40,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Gold on Quartz
Eagle's Nest Mine, Forest Hill, Placer County, California, USA

6.8 x 5.6 x 3.5 cm (2.68 x 2.20 x 1.38 inches). 132 grams (.29 lb).

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57

Tourmaline

Aricanga Mine, São José da Safira, Minas Gerais, Southeast Region, Brazil

Estimate:150,000 - 250,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Tourmaline
Aricanga Mine, São José da Safira, Minas Gerais, Southeast Region, Brazil

10 x 16 x 7.5 cm (4 x 6¼ x 3 inches). 383 grams (.84 lb).

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

58

Aquamarine on Matrix

Gon Mine, Nyet-Bruk, Braldu Valley, Skardu District, Baltistan, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan

Estimate:50,000 - 80,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Aquamarine on Matrix
Gon Mine, Nyet-Bruk, Braldu Valley, Skardu District, Baltistan, Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan

11.5 x 7 x 6.5 cm (4½ x 2¾ x 2½ inches). 453 grams (1 pound).

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

59

Azurite

Milpillas Mine; Cuitaca, Mun. de Cananea, Sonora, Mexico

Estimate:10,000 - 15,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Azurite
Milpillas Mine; Cuitaca, Mun. de Cananea, Sonora, Mexico

6 x 5 x 4 cm (2⅜ x 2 x 1⅝ inches). 64 grams (.14 lb).

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60

Quartz

Cabiche, Mun. de Quipama, Boyaca Department, Colombia

Estimate:5,000 - 8,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Quartz
Cabiche, Mun. de Quipama, Boyaca Department, Colombia

9 x 13.5 x 6 cm (3½ x 5½ x 2⅜ inches). 303 grams (.67 lb).

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61

Chalcedony

Rumipata, Ichuña District, General Sánchez Cerro Province, Moquegua, Peru

Estimate:5,000 - 8,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Chalcedony
Rumipata, Ichuña District, General Sánchez Cerro Province, Moquegua, Peru

8 x 12 x 14 cm (3⅛ x 4¾ x 5½ inches). 482 grams (1.06 lb).

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62

Quartz

Juchlistock, Grimsel Pass, Grimsel Area, Hasli Valley, Bern, Switzerland

Estimate:8,000 - 12,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Quartz
Juchlistock, Grimsel Pass, Grimsel Area, Hasli Valley, Bern, Switzerland

14 x 7 x 5.2 cm (5½ x 2¾ x 2 inches). 714 grams (1.57 pounds).

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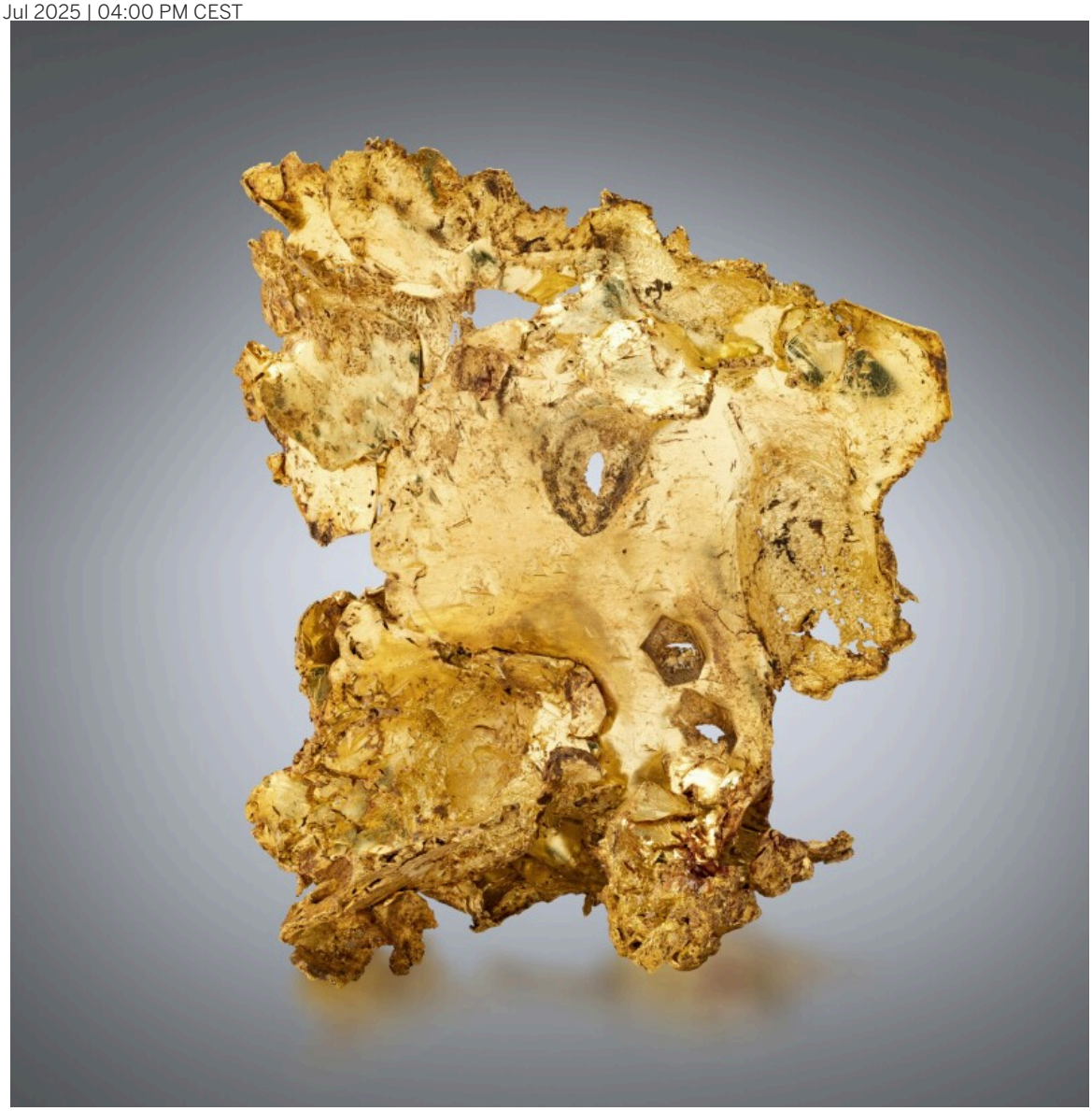

63

Gold (Leaf Variety)

Red Ledge Mine, Sierra County, California, USA

Estimate:20,000 - 30,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Gold (Leaf Variety)
Red Ledge Mine, Sierra County, California, USA

5 x 4 x 2.4 cm (1.97 x 1.57 x .94 inches). 38 grams.

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64

Tourmaline on Quartz

Aricanga Mine, São José da Safira, Minas Gerais, Southeast Region, Brazil

Estimate:100,000 - 150,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Tourmaline on Quartz
Aricanga Mine, São José da Safira, Minas Gerais, Southeast Region, Brazil

18 x 10 x 9.5 cm (7⅛ x 3⅞ x 3¾ inches). 837 grams (1.85 lb).

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65

Calcite on Sphalerite

Cumberland Mine, Smith County, Tennessee, USA

Estimate:10,000 - 15,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Calcite on Sphalerite
Cumberland Mine, Smith County, Tennessee, USA

19 x 26 x 11.5 cm (7½ x 10¼ x 4½ inches). 5.05 kilograms (11.13 pounds).

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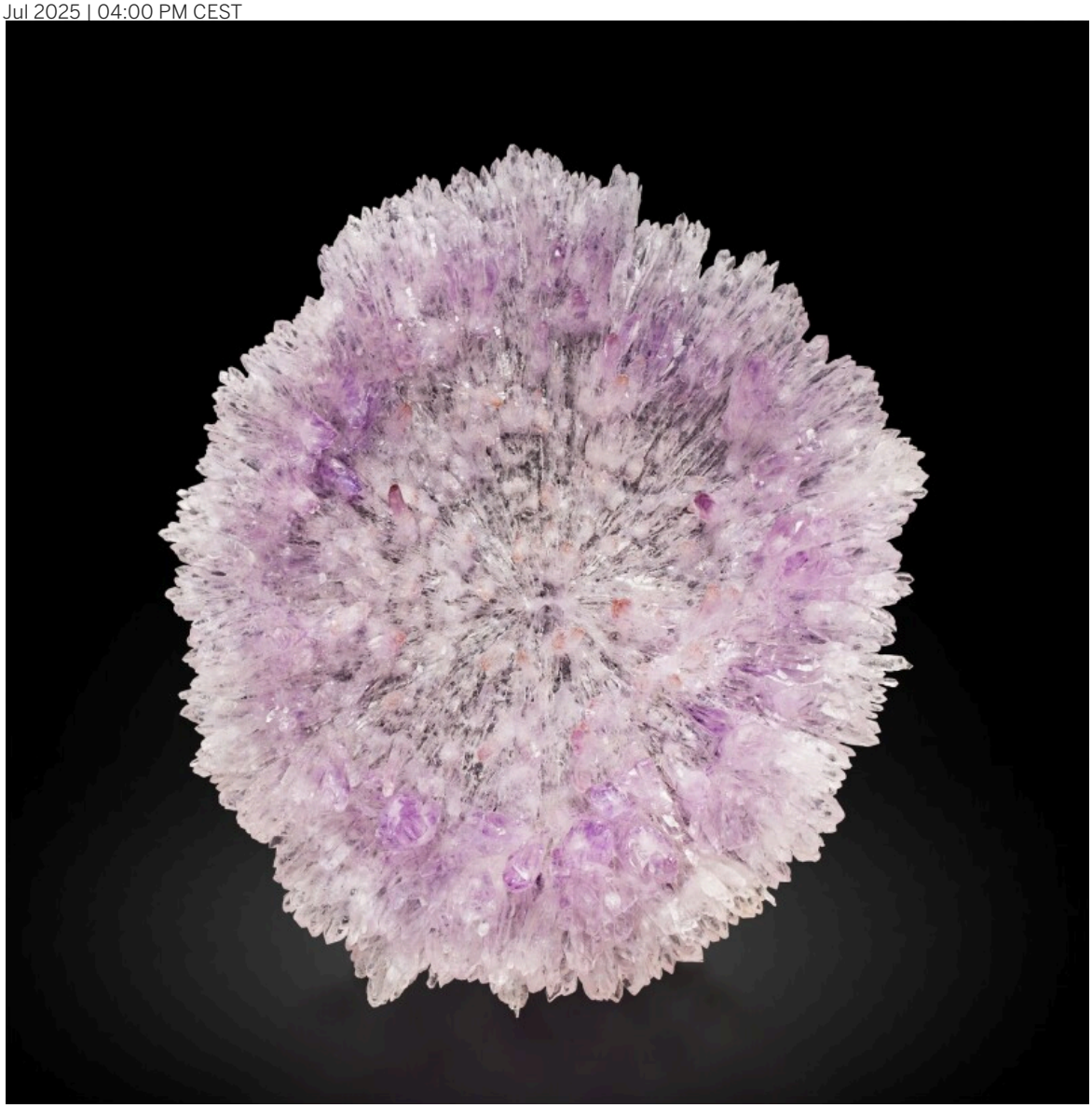

66

Amethyst Rosette (Flower Formation)

Irai, Rio Grande do Sul, Uruguay

Estimate:5,000 - 8,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Amethyst Rosette (Flower Formation)
Irai, Rio Grande do Sul, Uruguay

22 x 18.5 x 5.5 cm (8⅝ x 7¼ x 2⅛ inches). 612 grams (1.35 lb).

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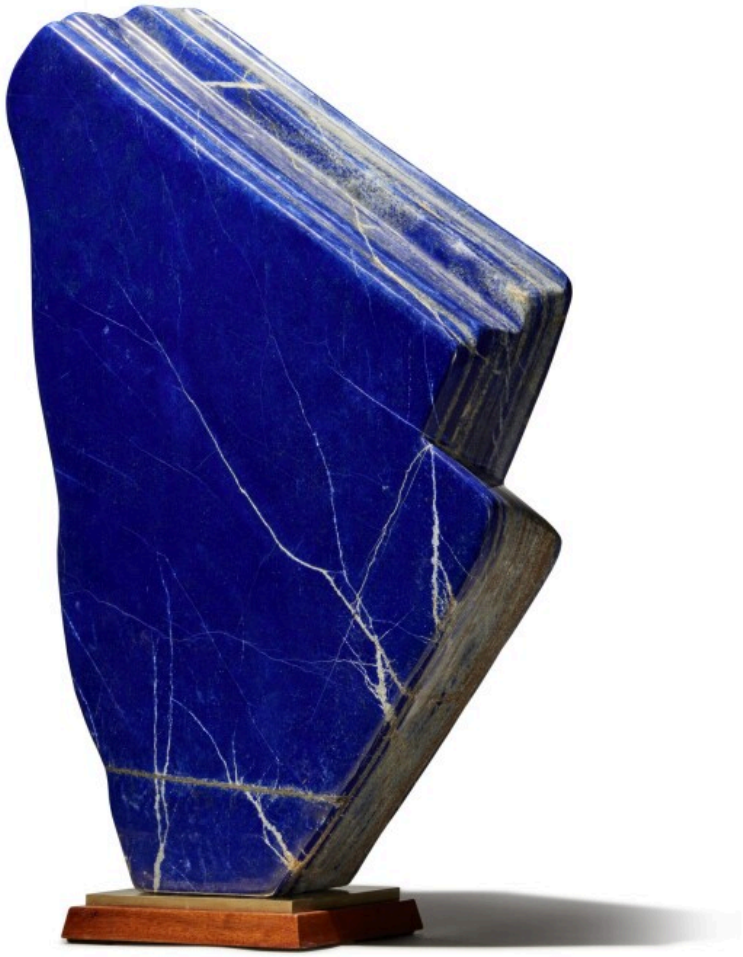

67

Large Lapis Lazuli Tower

Afghanistan

Estimate:5,000 - 8,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ♾ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Large Lapis Lazuli Tower
Afghanistan

24 x 14 x 4 inches (60.3 x 35.6 x 10.2 cm), 25¼ inches (64.1 cm) on affixed wood and metal base. 100 pounds (45.4 kg).

CATALOGUE NOTE

Polished on all sides, this large lapis lazuli tower comes from the mines of Afghanistan, where lapis lazuli — "the stone the color of the sky" — has been mined for millennia. Containing the minerals lazurite, pyrite, and calcite, lapis lazuli features prominently in, among other artifacts, the funerary mask of Tutankhamun and — as the pigment ultramarine — in the paintings of Renaissance artists such as Botticelli, Titian, Raphael, and Rubens, among many others.

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

68

Seymchan Meteorite End Piece

A "Lightning Bolt" of Extraterrestrial Gemstones

Estimate:6,000 - 9,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Seymchan Meteorite End Piece — A "Lightning Bolt" of Extraterrestrial Gemstones
Pallasite – PMG
Magadan District, Russia (62° 54'N, 152° 26'E)

305 x 86 x 37 mm (12 x 3⅜ x 1½ inches). 1,120 grams (2.47 lb).

13¼ inches tall on custom metal stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A "LIGHTNING BOLT" OF EXTRATERRESTRIAL GEMSTONES

Soviet geologist F.A. Mednikov discovered the first piece of Seymchan in June 1967 in a streambed in the Magadan District of Russia's Far East. The piece that Mednikov found was classified as an iron meteorite and Seymchan remained classified as such for four decades, until pieces containing gleaming olivine crystals were recovered from the fall site during a new expedition in 2004. Therefore, in 2007, Seymchan was reclassified as a pallasite: a type of meteorite originating from the core-mantle boundary of an asteroid and containing both shimmering olivine crystals (from the mantle) and iron-nickel alloy (from the core).

Pallasites such as Seymchan are incredible rare, accounting for .2% — or just 1 out of 500 — of all meteorite finds. On top of this, pallasite end cuts are particularly rare and sought after because they showcase both the inner and outer textures of the meteorite. The uncut side of this Seymchan end piece reveals the natural crests and grooves of the exterior of this stony-iron meteorite, an intriguing juxtaposition to the gorgeous gemstones and shimmering metal found inside.

On the cut face, the iron-nickel tip reveals lines of Widmanstätten patterning, the result of slow cooling over millions of years that provided sufficient time for the two iron-nickel alloys present in the meteorite to orient into a crystalline habit. As Widmanstätten patterns can only occur within certain types of asteroids, their presence is diagnostic in the identification of a meteorite. Additionally, as its crystals are irregularly distributed throughout the metallic matrix, Seymchan is referred to as a *transitional pallasite*, a much less common and more distinct variety of an already exceedingly rare type of meteorite.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Seymchan

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

69

Martian Meteorite — NWA 16788

The Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

Estimate:2,000,000 - 4,000,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

NWA 16788 — The Largest Piece of Mars on Earth
Martian – shergottite (olivine microgabbro)
Agadez Region (Kefkaf), Niger

374.7 x 279.4 x 152.4 mm (14¾ x 11 x 6 inches). 24.67 kilograms (54.388 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

AN INCREDIBLY RARE DISCOVERY – THE LARGEST PIECE OF MARS ON EARTH, EJECTED FROM THE MARTIAN SURFACE BY A MASSIVE ASTEROID STRIKE, JOURNEYED 140 MILLION MILES THROUGH SPACE, AND HURTLED THROUGH EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE BEFORE CRASHING IN THE SAHARA DESERT

Discovered on 16 November 2023 by a meteorite hunter in Niger's remote Agadez Region, NWA 16788 is approximately 70% larger than the next largest piece of Mars found on Earth. Pieces of Mars are unbelievably rare: of the more than 77,000 officially recognized meteorites, only 400 are Martian meteorites, with an approximate combined weight of 374 kg (825 pounds). Weighing 24.67 kilograms, NWA 16788 represents approximately 6.5% of all Martian material currently known.

NWA 16788 is covered in a reddish-brown fusion crust giving it an unmistakable Martian hue. Regmaglypts, or surface depressions formed by frictional heating during rapid descent through Earth's atmosphere, are also visible on the surface of the meteorite. NWA 16788 shows minimal terrestrial weathering, indicating that its physical and chemical makeup have not been significantly altered since its arrival in the Sahara Desert. In other words, NWA 16788 is likely a relative newcomer here on Earth, having fallen from outer space rather recently.

A significant percentage (21.2% by volume) of NWA 16788 is composed of a glass known as maskelynite, produced when an asteroid struck the Martian surface with such force that it metamorphosed the rock's original feldspar through intense heat and pressure, also propelling this piece of Mars off the surface of the planet. Given the severity of impact necessary to eject any material off the Martian surface and into space, researchers believe there are only approximately 19 craters large enough to be the potential origination points for Martian meteorites.

NWA 16788 is an olivine-microgabbroic shergottite, formed from the slow cooling of Martian magma and characterized by a course-grained texture composed primarily of pyroxene, maskelynite, and olivine. Only 5.4% of Martian meteorites are currently classified as either gabbroic or microgabbroic, making this a rare type of rock within the already extremely rare category of Martian meteorites. Because NWA 16788 also shares characteristics of poikilitic meteorites – that is, meteorites in which the crystals of one mineral are enclosed by the crystals of another mineral – current and future studies of this meteorite may lead to the revision of the Martian meteorite classification system, possibly bringing it into increased alignment with our more developed terrestrial rock classification system.

NWA 16788 was validated and published in the 113th edition of the Meteoritical Bulletin (2025), the journal of record for meteoritical science. Prior to landing at Sotheby's, the meteorite was publicly exhibited at the Italian Space Agency in Rome during the 2024 European Researchers' Night and in a private gallery in Arezzo, Tuscany.

Texture of NWA 16788:
"Backscattered electron (BSE) images and optical mosaics reveal a millimeter-sized cumulate texture dominated by a homogeneous distribution of pyroxene (61.1 vol.%), maskelynite (i.e., shocked plagioclase, 21.2 vol.%), and olivine (15.3 vol.%) assemblages. Accessory phases include phosphates (1.4 vol.%), ilmenite + Fe-Cr-Ti oxides (0.8 vol.%), and pyrrhotite (0.2 vol.%). A poikilitic texture with olivine chadacrysts (~ 100 μm) enclosed by pyroxene oikocrysts (from 1 to 2.5 mm) is also observed. Pyroxene, olivine, and accessory phases exhibit numerous irregular cracks and fractures. A set of fractures oriented perpendicular to the elongate axes appears in pyroxene and olivine grains. Micrometric veins enriched in Ca-carbonate, likely resulting from terrestrial weathering, are found around shock-melt pockets." (Shehaj et al., forthcoming, lines 286-96).

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for NWA 16788

Franza, A.; Shehaj, X.; Pratesi, G. A Fistful of Mars Exploring the Role of Martian Meteorites in Cultural Heritage and Scientific Inquiry. Heritage 2024, 7, 6981–6997. **https://doi.org/10.3390/heritage7120323**

Shehaj, X.; Pratesi, G.; Ammannito, E. Rethinking Martian Meteorite Classification? A New Perspective From the Shergottite Northwest Africa 16788. 56th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference, 10-14 March 2025. **https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/lpsc2025/pdf/1500.pdf**

Shehaj, X. *et al.* Northwest Africa (NWA) 16788: A New Olivine Microgabbroic Shergottite. Insights Into Martian Magmatism From the Largest Individual Meteorite From Mars. Forthcoming.

To see our full Digital Catalogue, including videos and slideshows, please visit our website.

https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/martian-meteorite-nwa-16788

Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

70

Gibeon Meteorite

Iron From the Core of an Asteroid

Estimate:15,000 - 25,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Gibeon Meteorite — Iron From the Core of an Asteroid
Iron – IVA
Great Namaqualand, Namibia (25° 30'S, 18° 0'E)

238 x 180 x 130 mm (9⅜ x 7⅛ x 5⅛ inches). 12.47 kilograms (27.49 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

IRON FROM THE CORE OF AN ASTEROID

In the late 1830s, the Royal Geographic Society invited British army captain James Edward Alexander to join an expeditionary force exploring the interior of the African continent. While in southern Africa, Alexander and his crew of eight obtained samples of iron which they were told came from large iron masses on the east side of the Fish River, running through the center of southern Namibia. Alexander and his team sent the samples back to Britain where John Herschel, the 19th century polymath famous for his invention of the blueprint as well as his chemical and astronomical findings, analyzed the samples and found them to be of meteoritic origin.

Although this is when the Gibeon meteorite became known to Western science, the meteorite had fallen thousands of years earlier and was already well known to the Nama people who lived in the area of Great Namaqualand. The Nama used the iron from Gibeon to create tools and weapons including the heads of their assegais, a type of polearm or spear common to much of Africa before the introduction of firearms. In the 1840s and 1850s, as European farmers and ranchers began to settle the area in larger numbers, many more Gibeon masses became known, collected, and traded, such that more than 26 tons of Gibeon have now been recovered from what is one of the largest strewn fields on Earth.

This large and gorgeous Gibeon meteorite has regmaglypts all over its surface, the signature "thumbprint" impressions that can occur when outer parts of a meteorite melt and fall off the mass as it hurtles through the atmosphere towards the Earth's surface. With an incredibly glossy patina and every side being a potential display side, this is a special Gibeon meteorite that commands everyone's attention.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Gibeon

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

71

Sikhote-Alin Meteorite

Formerly in the Soviet Union's Vernadsky Museum

Estimate:1,200 - 1,800 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Sikhote-Alin Meteorite — Formerly in the Soviet Union's Vernadsky Museum
Iron – IIAB
Maritime Territory, Siberia, Russia (46° 9' 36"N, 134° 39' 12"E)
Witnessed Fall on February 12, 1947

55 x 47 x 31 mm (2⅛ x 1⅞ x 1¼ inches). 199 grams (.44 lb).

With collection card from the Vernadsky Museum, Soviet Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia.

PROVENANCE

Formerly in the collection of the Vernadsky Museum, Soviet Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A HISTORIC METEORITE FORMERLY IN THE COLLECTION OF THE SOVIET UNION'S VERNADSKY MUSEUM

On February 12, 1947, a large meteor traveling approximately 9 miles per second soared across the Sikhote-Alin mountains in Russia's Far East, northeast of Vladivostok. Observed by many eyewitnesses, the "fireball moved from north to south and, at 10:38 a.m. local time, fragmented in the Earth's atmosphere. The debris covered an elliptical area of 1.6 square kilometers on the snow covered western spurs of the Sikhote Alin mountains."

The impact site was first discovered by a pair of pilots flying over the mountains; they had witnessed a meteor the day prior and had good reason to believe that the felled trees and craters they observed from above were the result. Reporting their find once they reached the town of Khabarovsk, the Geological Society of Khabarovsk organized a search party, eventually finding dozens of craters in an area of destroyed forest.

On April 27, a second expedition arrived from the Soviet Academy of Sciences, including the Soviet geologist E.L. Krinov. Krinov had cut his teeth working on the Tunguska Event impact site, and whereas the first group had only found shrapnel-like meteorites (see Lot 84), Krinov and his team found unfragmented pieces covered in thumbprint-like regmaglypts and bearing a fusion crust. Whereas the jagged and twisted shrapnel-like specimens resulted from a low-altitude explosion of the meteor, gently scalloped specimens such as this one broke free of the main mass in the upper atmosphere and acquired the aerodynamic regmaglypts on their descent to Earth.

Adorned with collection stickers and offered with a collection tag from the Soviet Union's Vernadsky Museum, this is a must have piece for serious meteorite collectors and any person who appreciates the history of meteoritics — a piece made even more special by the fact that it has not been cleaned since it was collected, a true rarity.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Sikhote-Alin

Norton, O. Richard. *Rocks from Space: Meteorites and Meteorite Hunters*. Missoula: Mountain Press, 1998, 100-109.

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https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/sikhote-alin-meteorite

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

72

Complete Slice of NWA 1950

A Piece of Mars Featuring Rare Green Olivine Throughout

Estimate:2,500 - 3,500 USD

☐ No Reserves ₰ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of NWA 1950 — A Piece of Mars Featuring Rare Yellow and Green Olivine Throughout
Martian – shergottite
Northwest Africa

98 x 58 x 3.5 mm (3⅞ x 2¼ x ⅛ inches). 26.05 grams (130.25 carats).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A PIECE OF MARS CONSISTING PRIMARILY OF OLIVINE

This complete slice of a Martian meteorite had been part of a rock on Mars that was launched off the Martian surface by a massive asteroid impact and then passed into an Earth-crossing orbit. Martian meteorites are among the rarest substances on Earth, with only approximately 374 kg (825 pounds) of Martian meteorites known to exist. In addition to their highly specific chemical markers, most Martian meteorites — including this example — exhibit an unusually young crystalline age, indicating they do not originate from asteroids.

As a peridotitic rock, NWA 1950 consists mainly of olivine, which shows up as the beguiling yellow and green color in this slice. The specimen has a dark fusion crust, the result of melting and then solidifying as it flew through the Earth's atmosphere.

Scientists long speculated that Mars was the most likely place of origin for an unusual group of meteorites that shared similar characteristics, a belief that was vindicated in 1995. The smoking gun turned out to be minute amounts of gas found in tiny bubbles of impact melt in two suspected Martian meteorites, specimens quite similar to the one currently offered. When the gas was analyzed, it matched the signature of the Martian atmosphere as reported by NASA's Viking space probes.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for NWA 1950

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

73

Allende

"The Oldest Matter That Can Be Seen and Touched"

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Allende — "The Oldest Matter That Can Be Seen and Touched"
Carbonaceous chondrite – CV3
Pueblito de Allende, Chihuahua, Mexico (26° 58'N, 105° 19'W)
Witnessed Fall on February 8, 1969

70 x 69 x 35 mm (2¾ x 2¾ x 1⅜ inches). 280 grams (.62 lb).

4 inches tall on custom stand.

PROVENANCE

Deaccessioned in 2009 from the Buseck Center for Meteorite Studies, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona. Inventory no. 818.53.

CATALOGUE NOTE

"THE OLDEST MATTER THAT CAN BE SEEN AND TOUCHED"

On the morning of February 8, 1969, a fireball was seen streaking across the skies of Northern Mexico, Texas, and New Mexico. After falling in the area of Pueblito de Allende in Chichuahua, locals began collecting pieces, followed only days later by a team of visiting Smithsonian scientists. As an observed fall, the Allende meteorite is sought after by scientists and collectors because eyewitness accounts can tell us about the orbit of the meteoroid as it entered the atmosphere. In addition, the pieces collected shortly after impact are pristine, not having been altered by their time here on Earth.

Allende is often described as "the most studied meteorite in history," having been cited in over 14,000 published articles. In addition, it has been called "the Rosetta Stone for planetologists" because it features calcium-aluminum-rich inclusions, some of the first solid matter to form in the early solar system. These calcium-aluminum-rich inclusions, or CAIs, appear as white speckles seen throughout the meteorite.

Scientists from NASA, the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, and the National Museum of Natural History studied Allende with equipment that had been acquired to analyze the Moon rocks they were waiting to receive from Apollo 11. It was during these examinations that scientists realized Allende contained CAIs, some of the oldest matter that can be seen and touched.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Allende

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

74

Lunar Meteorite — Tisserlitine 006

The Largest Known Lunar Sphere

Estimate:300,000 - 500,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Tisserlitine 006 — The Largest Known Lunar Sphere
Lunar – feldspathic breccia
Gao, Mali (21° 26' 2"N, 1° 7' 52"W)

120 mm (4¾ inches) in diameter. 2,540 grams (5.60 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

THE LARGEST KNOWN LUNAR SPHERE

Lunar material is some of the rarest material to exist on our planet — only 1,536 kilograms (3,386 lb) of confirmed lunar meteorites currently exist on Earth. And, while six of the Apollo missions brought back 382 kilograms (842 lb) of so-called ″Moon rocks″ from their combined voyages, those samples of the Moon are unavailable for private ownership. As a result, any piece of lunar material is exceedingly rare and highly sought after by both institutions and private collectors.

Despite the extreme rarity of lunar meteorites, lunar spheres have sometimes been fashioned from these stones once the requisite samples have been taken for identification and scientific analysis. Most lunar spheres are quite small, however, mainly because a much larger source meteorite is required to create even a relatively small lunar sphere. This is why most lunar spheres seen at auction measure less than 40 mm (1⅝ inches) in diameter, and weigh 100 grams or less.

The lunar sphere offered here, the largest one known to the public, has a diameter of 120 mm (4¾ inches) and weighs 2.54 kilograms (5.60 lb). In other words, a 1-inch diameter lunar sphere could fit into this one an incredible *105 times*, with room to spare. As creating any lunar sphere is an incredibly skillful endeavor requiring highly trained artisans and state-of-the-art equipment, and because there is the ever-present danger that the meteorite will crack or become damaged during the fabrication process, most meteorite owners are not willing to take on the burden or risk of creating something this magnificent.

Tisserlitine 006 features a light and dark grey surface, with a brecciated texture characterized by anorthite, olivine, and pigeonite clasts set into a vesicular matrix. This lunar sphere′s primary palette of grey and white is punctuated in numerous places by bright orange desert caliche, evidence of its time spent in the sands of the Sahara Desert.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Tisserlitine 006

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

75

Complete Slice of a Seymchan Meteorite

The Stunning Core-Mantle Boundary of a Differentiated Asteroid

Estimate:25,000 - 35,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of a Seymchan Meteorite — The Stunning Core-Mantle Boundary of a Differentiated Asteroid
Pallasite – PMG
Magadan District, Russia (62° 54'N, 152° 26'E)

368 x 292 x 5 mm (14½ x 11½ x ¼ inches). 1,858 grams (4.10 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

THE STUNNING CORE-MANTLE BOUNDARY OF A DIFFERENTIATED ASTEROID

Soviet geologist F.A. Mednikov discovered the first piece of Seymchan in June 1967 in a streambed in the Magadan District of Russia's Far East. The piece that Mednikov found was classified as an iron meteorite and Seymchan remained classified as such for four decades, until pieces containing gleaming olivine crystals were recovered from the fall site during a new expedition in 2004. Therefore, in 2007, Seymchan was reclassified as a pallasite: a type of meteorite originating from the core-mantle boundary of an asteroid and containing shimmering olivine crystals suspended in an iron-nickel alloy.

Pallasites such as Seymchan are incredible rare, accounting for .2% — or just 1 out of 500 — of all meteorite finds. The crystals seen here are the result of small chunks of the asteroid's stony mantle becoming suspended and crystallized in the molten metal of its iron-nickel core. Cut and polished, the lustrous metallic matrix features silicate crystals of gleaming olivine and peridot (gem-quality olivine) ranging in color from shimmering gold and amber to deep sea green. The prominent metallic latticework found throughout the slice is referred to as a Widmanstätten pattern and is the result of slow cooling over millions of years, providing sufficient time for the two iron-nickel alloys present in the meteorite to orient into a crystalline habit. As Widmanstätten patterns can only occur within certain types of asteroids in the vacuum of space, their presence is diagnostic in the identification of a meteorite. In addition, as its crystals are scattered irregularly throughout the metallic matrix, Seymchan is referred to as a *transitional pallasite*, a much less common and more distinct variety of an already exceedingly rare type of meteorite.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Seymchan

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

76

Complete Slice of NWA 7502

Featuring the Earliest Planetary Building Blocks

Estimate:1,000 - 1,500 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of NWA 7502 — Featuring the Earliest Planetary Building Blocks
Carbonaceous chondrite – CR2
Northwest Africa

66 x 66 x 3 mm (2⅝ x 2⅝ x ⅛ inches). 35.1 grams (175.5 carats).

CATALOGUE NOTE

THE EARLIEST PLANETARY BUILDING BLOCKS

NWA 7502 is a gorgeous carbonaceous chondrite displaying hundreds of light-colored chondrules in a slightly darker matrix. From a group of meteorites known as the "Renazzo-like chondrites," NWA 7502 is a time capsule from the earliest days of the solar system. Renazzo-like chondrites such as NWA 7502 are incredibly pristine, meaning they experienced very little heating in the early days of the formation of the solar system. This is because these meteorites are thought to originate from a single asteroid far out in the solar system, one of the last chondritic asteroids to come together. As such, most short-lived radioactive isotopes had already decayed and therefore this asteroid did not experience the intense heating and chondrule deformation found in earlier-formed chondritic meteorites.

In addition to helping us understand the early solar system and planetary accretion, meteorites like NWA 7502 can help us understand the universe *before our solar system even came into existence*. This slice contains presolar grains — *literal stardust* — from stars that existed before the creation of our solar system. They accreted and survived in asteroids that did not experience much alteration, made available to us from the primitive chondrites that reach Earth. Presolar grains provide researchers with a wealth of information about stellar nucleosynthesis (the creation of elements in stars through nuclear fusion) and help us understand the earliest stages of protoplanet formation.

Organic molecules are also abundant in Renazzo-like chondrites, giving us important insight into the building blocks of life on Earth (and possibly elsewhere).

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for NWA 7502

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77

Henbury

An Ancient and Important Meteorite From the Australian Outback

Estimate:5,000 - 8,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Henbury — An Ancient and Important Meteorite From the Australian Outback
Iron – IIIAB
Henbury, Northern Territory, Australia (24° 34'S, 133° 10'E)

96 x 89 x 76 mm (3¾ x 3½ x 3 inches). 2,288 grams (5.04 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

The Henbury meteorite fell to the ground in the Australian Outback approximately 4,700 years ago and produced over a dozen craters, the largest of which is 180 meters wide. It is quite likely that aboriginal Australians have known about the craters for thousands of years, passing down stories of the craters and the event that produced them in their oral traditions. Although the craters were found by Western settlers by 1899, the first pieces of Henbury were only identified as being meteoritic in origin in 1931 — an important year as it was the same year that Springwater was discovered in the Canadian Prairies (See Lot 85).

Henbury meteorites are distinguished by having two different types of exteriors, sometimes appearing on the same meteorite, as is the case here. One is so-called ″desert varnish,″ a type of coating can occur in arid environments and is made up of clay, iron oxides, and manganese oxides, creating a shiny black patina. In addition to desert varnish, one can also find caliche, an orange or red-colored crust made up of calcium carbonate and iron oxide that can occur on meteorites when in contact with the ground. This meteorite displays both types of exterior surface.

If this meteorite were to be sliced open, etched, and polished, it would display a distinctive Widmanstätten pattern, like many of the meteorites you see in this catalogue. A Widmanstätten pattern is the result of slow cooling over millions of years, providing sufficient time for the two iron-nickel alloys present in a meteorite to orient into a crystalline habit. As Widmanstätten patterns can only occur within certain types of asteroids in the vacuum of space, their presence is diagnostic in the identification of a meteorite.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Henbury

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78

Complete Slice of NWA 2995

A Meteorite From the Moon's Largest and Deepest Basin

Estimate:4,000 - 6,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of NWA 2995 — A Meteorite From the Moon's Largest and Deepest Basin
Lunar – feldspathic breccia
Algeria

86 x 52 x 2 mm (3⅜ x 2 x ⅛ inches). 11.45 grams (57.25 carats).

CATALOGUE NOTE

FROM THE MOON'S SOUTH POLE–AITKEN BASIN

NWA 2995 is a rare lunar meteorite consisting of a complex mix of breccias with some lunar mare basalt clasts. There are also metallic grains found within the slice, remnants of an iron-nickel impactor that struck the Moon, fragmented, and became lodged in the breccia. This meteorite is believed to have been ejected from the South Pole-Aitken Basin Region of the Moon, which is the proposed area for NASA's Artemis program, including Artemis 3 which plans to return NASA astronauts to the Moon.

Lunar material is some of the rarest material to exist on our planet — only 1,536 kilograms (3,386 lb) of confirmed lunar meteorites currently exist on Earth. And, while six of the Apollo missions brought back 382 kilograms (842 lb) of so-called "Moon rocks" from their combined voyages, these samples of the Moon are unavailable for private ownership. As a result, any piece of lunar material is exceedingly rare and highly sought after by both institutions and private collectors.

Until the first lunar meteorite was identified on Earth on January 17, 1982, the geologic history and surface composition of the Moon could only be studied from samples collected during the U.S. Apollo and Soviet Luna missions. Since these were exclusively harvested from the central near side of the Moon, the 1982 discovery proved to be a crucial scientific breakthrough. Thanks to the progressive retrieval on Earth of meteorite fragments originating from all areas of the Moon, invaluable and previously unattainable information about lunar geology has since become available.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for NWA 2995

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

79

Complete Slice of Gujba

A Rare and Beguiling Witnessed Fall from an Uncommon Locale

Estimate:5,000 - 8,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of Gujba — A Rare and Beguiling Witnessed Fall from an Uncommon Locale
Carbonaceous chondrite – CBa (Bencubbinite)
Yobe, Nigeria (11° 29' 30"N, 11° 39' 30"E)
Witnessed Fall on April 3, 1984

113 x 87 x 2 mm (4⅜ x 3⅜ x ⅛ inches). 58 grams (.13 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

The villagers of Bogga Dingare, Nigeria witnessed Gujba as it hurtled across the sky on April 3rd, 1984. Of the 26 Bencubbinites found on Earth, Gujba is the only one seen as it was falling to the ground. As with the other Bencubbinites, Gujba is the result of a massive collision between a metallic asteroid and a stony asteroid, creating a superheated, metal-enriched gas that then condensed on the surface of the stony asteroid to produce Gujba. A similar process created the other 25 Bencubbinites, including the namesake meteorite of the entire group, Bencubbinite, offered here as Lot 107.

The intertwined metallic and stony chondrules found throughout this slice are the aesthetic result of what must have been an incredibly violent collision between these two very different heavenly bodies. Gujba also contains microscopic grains of interstratified graphite and diamond, an important discovery for geologists as incompletely transformed graphite has yet to be found naturally on Earth.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Gujba

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

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80

Tissint

A Witnessed and Flight Oriented Martian Meteorite

Estimate:15,000 - 25,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Tissint — A Witnessed and Flight Oriented Martian Meteorite
Martian – shergottite
Tata, Morocco (29° 28′ 55″N, 7° 36′ 40″W)
Witnessed Fall on July 18, 2011

47 x 43 x 30 mm (1⅞ x 1¾ x 1⅛ inches). 91.2 grams (.20 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A WITNESSED AND FLIGHT ORIENTED MARTIAN METEORITE

This complete stone of Tissint is a spectacular specimen: it is flight oriented, with a fresh and glassy dark fusion crust covering the entire surface.

Tissint is perhaps the most studied Martian meteorite in existence, and one of the most sought after. This is for a number of reasons: it was an observed fall, it has a glossy and beautiful fusion crust produced during entry into the atmosphere, it was collected only days after the fall and is thus relatively ″uncontaminated,″ and it contains a large number of organic compounds, the study of which can help us understand whether Mars would once have been suitable for life.

Tissint is one of only five observed Martian falls. Launched off of the Martian surface by a violent collision with an asteroid, the meteorite landed outside the central Moroccan town of Tissint on July 18, 2011. Tissint has been invaluable to meteoritic science as it contains a large number and diversity of organic compounds, helping us understand Martian geochemistry. As Andrew Steele, staff scientist at the Carnegie Institution for Science and member of the Perseverence and Curiosity rover teams has said of Tissint:

″Understanding the processes and sequence of events that shaped this rich organic bounty will reveal new details about Mars′ habitability and potentially about the reactions that could lead to the formation of life.″

Of particular interest in Tissint are the number of organic magnesium compounds, never before seen in a Martian sample, that can tell scientists more about the interior of Mars and the connection between its carbon cycle and mineral evolution.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Tissint

Philippe Schmitt-Kopplin *et al.* "Complex carbonaceous matter in Tissint Martian meteorites give insights into the diversity of organic geochemistry on Mars." *Science Advances* 9(2), 2023.

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

81

Complete Slice of an Imilac Meteorite

From the Highest Desert on Earth

Estimate:1,500 - 2,500 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of an Imilac Meteorite — From the Highest Desert on Earth
Pallasite – PMG
Atacama Desert, Chile (24° 12' 12"S, 68° 48' 24"W)

105 x 54 x 3 mm (4⅛ x 2⅛ x ⅛ inches). 61 grams (.13 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A GORGEOUS METEORITE FROM THE HIGHEST DESERT ON EARTH

Imilac was found in 1822 in the Atacama Desert high atop the Andes, the highest desert and driest place on Earth outside of the polar regions. Although Imilac originated from the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, the Atacama Desert was also a fitting place for this extraterrestrial visitor to land: not only does it host many high-powered telescopes used in cutting-edge astronomical research, but NASA and other space agencies perform many of their Martian studies in the Atacama desert because its dryness and soil chemistry are remarkably similar to the Red Planet.

Pallasites such as Imilac are incredible rare, accounting for .2% — or just 1 out of 500 — of all meteorite finds. The olivine crystals found embedded in Imilac are particularly large and translucent, the remnants of pieces of an asteroid's stony mantle becoming suspended in the molten metal of its iron-nickel core. The prominent metallic latticework found on the display side of the slice is referred to as a Widmanstätten pattern and is the result of slow cooling over millions of years, providing sufficient time for the two iron-nickel alloys present in the meteorite to orient into a crystalline habit. As Widmanstätten patterns can only occur within certain types of asteroids in the vacuum of space, their presence is diagnostic in the identification of a meteorite.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Imilac

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

82

NWA 16684 Lunar Meteorite Necklace

Jewelry Made of the Moon

Estimate:6,000 - 9,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

NWA 16684 Lunar Meteorite Necklace — Jewelry Made of the Moon
Lunar – feldspathic breccia
Mali

Necklace consisting of 50 lunar spheres, each 9.20 mm (⅜ inch) in diameter, weighing 67.7 grams (.15 lb) inclusive of strand, 18k gold clasp, and 49 18k gold spacers. Necklace length: 22⅛ inches (56.2 cm).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A NECKLACE MADE OF THE MOON

This necklace offers its owner the incredible opportunity to wear the Moon. Crafting a sphere from any stone — much less from a lunar meteorite — is a skillful endeavor requiring the efforts of a master artisan with cutting-edge equipment. In this case, the artisan had to painstakingly craft 50 separate spheres from NWA 16684, a feldspathic breccia consisting principally of plagioclase, olivine, and pyroxene minerals.

Lunar material is some of the rarest material to exist on our planet — only 1,536 kilograms (3,386 lb) of confirmed lunar meteorites currently exist on Earth. And, while six of the Apollo missions brought back 382 kilograms (842 lb) of so-called "Moon rocks" from their combined voyages, these samples of the Moon are unavailable for private ownership. As a result, any piece of lunar material — and certainly a necklace made up of 50 separate lunar spheres — is exceedingly rare and highly sought after.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for NWA 16684

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

83

Canyon Diablo Meteorite

Originally From the Collection of Harvey H. Nininger, the "Father of Meteoritics"

Estimate:7,000 - 10,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Canyon Diablo Meteorite — Originally From the Collection of Harvey H. Nininger, the "Father of Meteoritics"
Iron – IAB-MG
Meteor Crater, Coconino County, Arizona, USA (35° 3'N, 111° 2'W)

219 x 150 x 65 mm (8⅝ x 5⅞ x 2½ inches). 4.38 kilograms (9.66 lb).

PROVENANCE

Collected by Harvey H. Nininger (1887-1986), the "Father of Meteoritics." Nininger inventory no. 34.5196.

CATALOGUE NOTE

FROM THE MOST WELL-KNOWN METEOR CRATER, AND ORIGINALLY FROM THE LARGEST AND MOST FAMOUS PRIVATE COLLECTION OF METEORITES

Harvey H. Nininger is widely known as the ″Father of Meteoritics.″ Having started his scientific career as a biology professor at McPherson College in Kansas, Nininger′s life changed forever after witnessing a meteor streaking through the night sky on November 9th, 1923. Although astronomers and geologists had been studying meteorites for well over a century at that point, sustained, academic research on meteorites in American universities was still in its very early stages.

Having spent years collecting and studying meteorites in his spare time, Nininger left McPherson College in 1929 and moved to Denver to oversee the meteorite collection at the Colorado Museum of Natural History (now the Denver Museum of Nature & Science). In 1935, Nininger taught the first dedicated university course on meteorites at the University of Denver. After amassing the world′s largest private collection of meteorites by the early-1940s, Nininger left Denver to open the American Meteorite Museum near Meteor Crater in northern Arizona to display his collection and continue his research on meteorites. Moving again to Sedona, Arizona in the early 1950s, Nininger would eventually close the American Meteorite Museum in 1960, selling the vast majority of his collection to the British Museum and Arizona State University.

The Canyon Diablo specimen seen here originates from Harvey Nininger′s private collection, and was collected by him at Meteor Crater where the American Meteorite Museum was once located. Nininger′s original inventory number, 34.5196, is displayed directly on the specimen. Like most meteorites, Canyon Diablo originated in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, and plowed into the desert approximately 50,000 years ago, forming Meteor Crater in an explosion estimated to have had a force of between 2 and 20 million tons of TNT. Most of the mass vaporized on impact while fragments were flung as far as 11 miles from the impact site.

Meteor Crater receives over 200,000 visitors every year, and Canyon Diablo meteorites originating from in and around Meteor Crater are prized by museums and collectors throughout the world. This meteorite — a wonderfully sculptural example with a handsome red and brown patina — is made even more special by its association with Harvey Nininger, the "Father of Meteoritics."

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Canyon Diablo

Nininger, Harvey H. *Arizona's Meteorite Crater. Past-Present-Future*. Denver, Colorado: American Meteorite Laboratory, 1956.

Norton, O. Richard. *Rocks from Space: Meteorites and Meteorite Hunters*. Missoula: Mountain Press, 1998, ch. 7.

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

84

Sikhote-Alin Meteorite

Iron Shrapnel From a Low-Altitude Explosion

Estimate:1,200 - 1,800 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Sikhote-Alin Meteorite — Iron Shrapnel From a Low-Altitude Explosion
Iron – IIAB
Maritime Territory, Siberia, Russia (46° 9′ 36″N, 134° 39′ 12″E)
Witnessed Fall on February 12, 1947

119 x 70 x 26 mm (4⅝ x 2¾ x 1 inches). 492 grams (1.08 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

IRON SHRAPNEL FROM A LOW-ALTITUDE EXPLOSION

On February 12, 1947, a large meteor traveling approximately 9 miles per second soared across the Sikhote-Alin mountains in Russia's Far East, northeast of Vladivostok. Observed by many eyewitnesses, the "fireball moved from north to south and, at 10:38 a.m. local time, fragmented in the Earth's atmosphere. The debris covered an elliptical area of 1.6 square kilometers on the snow covered western spurs of the Sikhote Alin mountains."

The impact site was first discovered by a pair of pilots flying over the mountains; they had witnessed a meteor the day prior and had good reason to believe that the felled trees and craters they observed from above were the result. Reporting their find once they reached the town of Khabarovsk, the Geological Society of Khabarovsk organized a search party, eventually finding dozens of craters in an area of destroyed forest.

On April 27, a second expedition arrived from the Soviet Academy of Sciences, including the Soviet geologist E.L. Krinov. Krinov had cut his teeth working on the Tunguska Event impact site, and whereas the first group only found shrapnel-like meteorites like the one seen here, Krinov and his team found unfragmented pieces covered in thumbprint-like regmaglypts and bearing a fusion crust (see Lot 71). Whereas the gently scalloped specimens broke free of the main mass in the upper atmosphere, the jagged and twisted shrapnel-like specimens like the one seen here resulted from a low-altitude explosion of the meteor.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Sikhote-Alin

Norton, O. Richard. *Rocks from Space: Meteorites and Meteorite Hunters*. Missoula: Mountain Press, 1998, 100-109.

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

85

Complete Slice of a Springwater Meteorite

One of Only Three Canadian Pallasites Ever Found

Estimate:6,000 - 9,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ☌ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of a Springwater Meteorite — One of Only Three Canadian Pallasites Ever Found
Pallasite – PMG-an
Saskatchewan, Canada (52° 0'N, 108° 18'W)

277 x 155 x 3 mm (10⅞ x 6⅛ x ⅛ inches). 378 grams (.83 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

ONE OF ONLY THREE CANADIAN PALLASITES EVER FOUND

Three pieces of the Springwater pallasite were discovered in 1931 in a field near the town of Springwater, about 100 miles west of Saskatoon in Canada. Soon after their discovery, in August 1931, well-known meteoriticist Harvey Nininger bought the samples from the Springwater residents who collected them, cut them into slices, and distributed them to institutions around the world. Nininger was interested in Springwater not only because of the rarity of pallasites in general — making up just .2% of all meteorite finds — but because Springwater was the first pallasite found on Canadian soil. Indeed, Springwater is still one of only three pallasites ever found in Canada.

The Springwater pallasite contains smaller than average olivine crystals, but a much higher percentage of the surface area is covered by these gem-like silicates than in most other pallasites. The crystals in this Springwater slice are also pleasingly round and incredibly bright and translucent. As is the case with all pallasites, the olivine crystals found embedded in Springwater are the remnants of pieces of an asteroid's stony mantle becoming suspended in the molten metal of its iron-nickel core. The prominent metallic latticework found on the display side of the slice is referred to as a Widmanstätten pattern and is the result of slow cooling over millions of years, providing sufficient time for the two iron-nickel alloys present in the meteorite to orient into a crystalline habit. As Widmanstätten patterns can only occur within certain types of asteroids in the vacuum of space, their presence is diagnostic in the identification of a meteorite.

In 2009, a group of meteorite hunters returned to the original site of the Springwater find and recovered over 100 kg (220 pounds) of new material, a discovery from which this incredible slice originates. The largest single meteorite from this new find, weighing in at over 52 kg (114 pounds), was acquired by the Royal Ontario Museum and is exhibited there as a veritable Canadian national treasure.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Springwater

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https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/complete-slice-of-a-springwater-meteorite

Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

86

Aletai Meteorite Sphere

An Enormous Iron Sphere From One of the Largest Strewn Fields

Estimate:5,000 - 8,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Aletai Meteorite Sphere — A Sizable Iron Sphere From One of the Largest Strewn Fields
Medium octahedrite – IIIE-an
Altay Prefecture, Xinjiang, China (45° 52′ 16″N, 90° 30′ 17″E)

63 mm (2½ inches) in diameter. 997 grams (2.20 lb).

6 inches tall on custom stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A SIZABLE IRON SPHERE FROM ONE OF THE LARGEST METEORITE STREWN FIELDS

This lot features a shimmering metallic sphere, extracted from the core of the famous Aletai meteorite, discovered in China's far northwestern province of Xinjiang. This sample allows a three-dimensional view of the meteorite's interior crystalline matrix, chiefly formed of the interweaving bands of two iron-nickel allows, taenite and kamacite — the latter of which is unique to meteorite specimens and found nowhere else on Earth.

Aletai is a member of one of the smallest subgroups of iron meteorites in the scientific literature, with only sixteen IIIE meteorites on record. Of these sixteen, only two have anomalous chemical abundances and Aletai is one of them, as it contains the highest concentration of gold in the IIIE group.

Aletai also contains a relatively large amount of iridium, the second densest element known. Because the abundance of iridium in meteorites is much higher than that found in the Earth's crust, it was the unusually large amount of iridium present in the 65 million-year-old Cretaceous–Paleogene boundary that sparked the idea that a massive meteorite impact was responsible for the extinction of the dinosaurs 65 million years ago.

The entire mass of Aletai is close to 100 tons, and a 28-ton Aletai specimen is the 5th largest single meteorite found on Earth. The strewn field was so vast — 430 km (267 miles) in length — that for some time different specimens from this meteorite shower had different names (Armanty, Xinjiang, and Ulasitai). As it has now been determined that each of these meteorites originated from the same event, they have all been renamed Aletai.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Aletai

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https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/aletai-meteorite-sphere

Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

87

Choteau

A Complete Slice of a Unique Montana Meteorite

Estimate:7,000 - 10,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Choteau — A Complete Slice of an Important Montana Meteorite
Pallasite – ungrouped
Montana, United States

119 x 113 x 3 mm (4⅝ x 4½ x ⅛ inches). 108 grams (.24 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A RARE AND UNUSUAL PALLASITE FROM BIG SKY COUNTRY

Every detail about Choteau makes it clear that this is an unbelievably special meteorite. First, it is one of only seven meteorites found in Montana. In addition, it is the *only* pallasite ever found in Big Sky Country. On top of that, it is one of only 13 ungrouped pallasites, which in this case means that it shares some of its chemical properties with the acapulcoite and lodranite primitive achondrites. And finally, only a single 8.4 kg (18.5 pound) stone was found, meaning that there will only ever be a very small number of Choteau slices available to the public. The remarkable size of some of Choteau's honey-colored olivine crystals, combined with the distinct Widmanstätten patterning of its iron-nickel matrix, combine with all of its other distinctions to make this a rare, important, and highly collectible meteorite.

Pallasites such as Choteau are incredible rare, accounting for .2% — or just 1 out of 500 — of all meteorite finds. A number of the olivine crystals found embedded in this slice of Choteau are unbelievably large, the remnants of pieces of an asteroid's stony mantle becoming suspended in the molten metal of its iron-nickel core. The Widmanstätten pattern seen on the display side of this meteorite slice is the result of slow cooling over millions of years, providing sufficient time for the two iron-nickel alloys present in the meteorite to orient into a crystalline habit. As Widmanstätten patterns can only occur within certain types of asteroids in the vacuum of space, their presence is diagnostic in the identification of a meteorite.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Choteau

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

88

Complete Slice of a Muonionalusta Meteorite

A One Million Year Resident of Earth

Estimate:2,500 - 3,500 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of a Muonionalusta Meteorite — A One Million Year Resident of Earth
Iron – IVA
Norrbotten, Sweden (67° 48'N, 23° 6'E)

240 x 152 x 9 mm (9½ x 6 x ⅜ inches). 1,276 grams (2.81 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A ONE MILLION YEAR RESIDENT OF EARTH

Of all the meteorites ever found, Muonionalusta is the one with the longest tenure here on Earth, having fallen between 800,000 and 1,200,000 years ago. It was found in 1906 outside the town of Kitkiöjärvi in Northern Sweden, close to the Finnish border and west of the Finnish municipality of Muonio (hence the name Muonionalusta, or ″downstream from Muonio″). Having fallen well before humans appeared on the scene, in an area still sparsely populated, it is not surprising that it was not found until the beginning of the 20th century.

The display side of this thick, complete slice has been etched and polished to reveal the beauty of Muonionalusta's crystalline structure. As extended cooling for millions of years is required for the molecules of the two major iron-nickel alloys of iron meteorites — kamacite and taenite — to crystallize, the pattern seen here is diagnostic in the identification of iron meteorites. These patterns are referred to as Widmanstätten patterns in honor of Count Alois von Beckh Widmanstätten, the director of the Imperial Porcelain Works in Vienna in the early 19th century, who happened to notice them as he was investigating the structure of iron meteorites. While working in Italy, researcher William Thompson also noticed this pattern and wrote a scientific paper about them four years before the Count's observation. However, the Napoleonic Wars and instability in southern Italy at the time made it extremely challenging to be contact with his colleagues in England and his findings were not published in English until years later. There has been a recent effort to honor Thompson with what was his indeed his discovery by referring to such patterns as Thompson structures. Regardless of what they are called, the pattern seen in the meteorite offered here is robust, although there are some rare slips (or, ″glide-plane displacements″) in the pattern, caused by a large object impacting Muonionalusta′s parent asteroid while flying in space, disrupting the pattern′s continuous growth.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Muonionalusta

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

89

Complete Slice of NWA 11524

From One of Rarest Types of Lunar Meteorite

Estimate:2,500 - 3,500 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of NWA 11524 — From One of Rarest Types of Lunar Meteorite
Lunar – basaltic breccia
Northwest Africa

101 x 82 x 2.5 mm (4 x 3¼ x ⅛ inches). 42 grams (210 carats).

CATALOGUE NOTE

ONE OF THE RAREST TYPES OF LUNAR METEORITE

Lunar material is some of the rarest material to exist on our planet — only 1,536 kilograms (3,386 lb) of confirmed lunar meteorites currently exist on Earth. And, while six of the Apollo missions brought back 382 kilograms (842 lb) of so-called "Moon rocks" from their combined voyages, these samples of the Moon are unavailable for private ownership. As a result, any piece of lunar material is exceedingly rare and highly sought after by both institutions and private collectors.

The total amount of NWA 11524 is only 820 grams, a miniscule amount of material. In addition, NWA 11524 comes from a particularly rare lunar subgroup, the basaltic breccias. Because of the two different textures found in this meteorite, it has been suggested that NWA 11524 was in fact two lunar meteorites that collided and fused together in space, giving it a very distinctive and aesthetic look.

Until the first lunar meteorite was identified on Earth on January 17, 1982, the geologic history and surface composition of the Moon could only be studied from samples collected during the Apollo and Soviet Luna missions. Since these were exclusively harvested from the central near side of the Moon, the 1982 discovery proved to be a crucial scientific breakthrough. Thanks to the progressive retrieval on Earth of meteorite fragments originating from all areas of the Moon, invaluable and previously unattainable information about lunar geology has since become available.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for NWA 11524

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

90

Complete Slice of an Aba Panu Meteorite

From a Fireball That Detonated Over Nigeria

Estimate:2,500 - 3,500 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of an Aba Panu Meteorite — From a Fireball That Detonated Over Nigeria
Chondrite – L3
Oyo, Nigeria (8° 16' 56"N, 3° 34' 2"E)
Witnessed Fall on April 19, 2018

279 x 247 x 4 mm (11 x 9¾ x ⅛ inches). 666.21 grams (1.47 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

FROM A FIREBALL THAT DETONATED OVER NIGERIA

On April 19, 2018 a large fireball traveling at a velocity of 13 miles per second (over 75,000 kilometers per hour) exploded over multiple villages in southwestern Nigeria. Numerous stones were recovered and the meteorite was named Aba Panu for the village near the center of the strewn field.

Stony meteorites come in two varieties: *chondrites* (meteorites with silicate spherules) and *achondrites* (meteorites whose spherules have melted and are now indiscernible). Older than Earth, Aba Panu is a *primitive chondrite* (i.e., it only experienced modest heating on its parent body and is largely unchanged from the time it formed). In effect, this complete slice provides a peek into the raw ingredients of our planets as they were beginning to form. Among the types of chondrules in evidence are *barred olivine chondrules* (where parallel olivine bars can be seen within the spherule) and aggregates of mini-chondrules. Achondritic clasts and fine metallic flakes primarily composed of iron and nickel are also dispersed throughout the matrix of both lithologies. This primitive chondrite is offered as an artifact from the formation of our solar system 4.56 billion years ago.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Aba Panu

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

91

Morasko

A Substantial Iron Meteorite From a Historic European Locale

Estimate:30,000 - 50,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Morasko — A Substantial Iron Meteorite From a Historic European Locale
Iron – IAB-MG
Poznan, Poland (52° 28'N, 16° 54'E)

292 x 216 x 152 mm (11½ x 8½ x 6 inches). 20.4 kg (45 pounds).

12½ inches tall on custom base.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A SUBSTANTIAL IRON METEORITE FROM A HISTORIC EUROPEAN LOCALE

Morasko struck a region 9 kilometers north of what is now Poznan, Poland about 4,500 to 5,000 years ago. The meteorite strike produced seven meteor craters, several of which have become small lakes, all now preserved in the Morasko Meteorite Nature Reserve.

As with all meteorites except for those that come from the Moon or Mars, the Morasko meteorite originated from the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. An iron meteorite, Morasko would have been part of the molten, metal core of an asteroid that broke off following an intense, interstellar collision and found its way into an Earth-crossing orbit before slamming down on our planet.

This large and aesthetic meteorite is covered in regmaglypts, the result of frictional heating during its journey through Earth's atmosphere, as streaks of molten metal vaporized off the surface of the hurtling iron-nickel meteoroid. Originally discovered by soldiers digging rifle pits during World War I, this striking and historic meteorite would be a beguiling centerpiece to any natural history collection.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Morasko

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

92

Plateau du Tademait 008

A Complete Slice of a Martian Meteorite

Estimate:7,000 - 10,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Plateau du Tademait 008 — A Complete Slice of a Martian Meteorite
Martian – shergottite
Adrar Province, Algeria (28° 55' 4"N, 0° 59' 6"E)

147 x 129 x 3 mm (5¾ x 5⅛ x ⅛ inches). 92 grams (.20 lb).

6½ inches on stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A COMPLETE SLICE OF A MARTIAN METEORITE

This complete slice of a Martian meteorite had been part of a rock on Mars that was launched off the Martian surface by a massive asteroid impact and then passed into an Earth-crossing orbit. Martian meteorites are among the rarest substances on Earth, with only approximately 374 kg (825 pounds) of Martian meteorites known to exist. In addition to their highly specific chemical markers, most Martian meteorites — including this example — exhibit an unusually young crystalline age, indicating that they do not originate from asteroids. Scientists long speculated that Mars was the most likely candidate for the origin of an unusual group of meteorites that shared similar characteristics, a belief that was vindicated in 1995. The smoking gun turned out to be minute amounts of gas found in tiny bubbles of impact melt in two suspected Martian meteorites, specimens quite similar to the one currently offered. When the gas was analyzed, it matched the signature of the Martian atmosphere as reported by NASA's Viking space probes.

Both sides of this meteorite slice reveal pale green olivine phenocrysts encompassing smaller pyroxene grains. In addition to pyroxene and olivine, scattered throughout are grains of maskelynite, the impact glass that engulfed tiny amounts of Martian atmosphere. As a complete slice of Plateau du Tademait 008, this specimen is circumscribed by a dark fusion crust along the entire rim, the last part of the meteoroid to melt and cool before thundering into the Sahara desert.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Plateau du Tademait 008

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

93

Sericho

A Stony-Iron Meteorite in the Shape of a Sphere

Estimate:2,500 - 3,500 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Sericho — A Stony-Iron Meteorite in the Shape of a Sphere
Pallasite
Sericho/Habaswein, Kenya (1° 5' 41"N, 39° 6' 8"E)

46mm (1¾ inches) in diameter. 234 grams (.52 pounds).

4½ inches on custom stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A BEAUTIFUL PALLASITE SPHERE

The lore surrounding the Sericho pallasite is as interesting as this sphere is beautiful. In 2016, two camel-herding brothers stumbled upon a number of large stones west of the village of Habaswein, south of Sericho, Kenya. As there were no other rocks in the area, the brothers decided that these must have been meteorites. Spending several weeks collecting the stones — sometimes using a hydraulic hoist because of their immense size and weight — they moved them into their homes in Habaswein. As it turns out, other locals had known about the stones for decades, and would even play atop them, but they were only recognized as meteorites after their rediscovery in 2016. To date, more than 2.8 tons of Sericho have been found in a strewn field more than 28 miles (45 km) long.

Pallasites such as Sericho are incredibly rare, accounting for .2% — or just 1 out of 500 — of all meteorite finds. The crystals seen in this Sericho sphere are the result of small pieces of the asteroid's stony mantle becoming suspended in the molten metal of its iron-nickel core before crystallizing. The handsomely dark crystals of olivine range in hue from dark chestnut to fiery amber. This specimen was extracted from a larger piece of a Sericho meteorite that underwent a number of stages of cutting, grinding, and polishing in a sphere-making apparatus, resulting in a stunning and dramatic metallic and crystal ball from outer space.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Sericho

To see our full Digital Catalogue, including videos and slideshows, please visit our website.

https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/sericho

Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

94

Complete Slice of Shişr 162

Believed to Have Originated From the Far Side of the Moon

Estimate:2,000 - 3,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₰ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of Shişr 162 — Believed to Have Originated From the Far Side of the Moon
Lunar – feldspathic breccia
Zufar, Oman (18° 34'N, 53° 50'E)

94 x 77 x 1.25 mm (3¾ x 3 x ⅛ inches). 13.6 grams (68 carats).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A LUNAR METEORITE BELIEVED TO HAVE ORIGINATED FROM THE FAR SIDE OF THE MOON

Lunar material is some of the rarest material to exist on our planet — only 1,536 kilograms (3,386 lb) of confirmed lunar meteorites currently exist on Earth. And, while six of the Apollo missions brought back 382 kilograms (842 lb) of so-called "Moon rocks" from their combined voyages, these samples of the Moon are unavailable for private ownership. As a result, any piece of lunar material is exceedingly rare and highly sought after by both institutions and collectors.

This lunar meteorite slice comes from Shişr 162, the largest lunar meteorite ever found in Oman. Discovered on a gravel plateau of Miocene limestone, this meteorite is believed to have come from an area on the Far Side of the Moon as its geological makeup differs from the Moon rock samples collected during the Apollo missions. In addition, as a breccia made up of many different fragments of lunar material cemented together, it can give us remarkable insight into the different types of rocks found on the Moon.

Until the first lunar meteorite was identified on Earth on January 17, 1982, the geologic history and surface composition of the Moon could only be studied from samples collected during the U.S. Apollo and Soviet Luna missions. Since these were exclusively harvested from the central near side of the Moon, the 1982 discovery proved to be a crucial scientific breakthrough. Thanks to the progressive retrieval on Earth of meteorite fragments originating from all areas of the Moon, invaluable and previously unattainable information about lunar geology has since become available.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Shişr 162

Garcia, S., J. Gross, and R.L. Korotev. "Shisr 162: A Glimpse Into Lunar Lithologies." *46th Lunar and Planetary Science Conference*, 2015.

To see our full Digital Catalogue, including videos and slideshows, please visit our website.

https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/complete-slice-of-shisr-162

Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

95

Vaca Muerta End Piece

A Rare Stony-Iron Meteorite From High in the Atacama Desert

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Vaca Muerta End Piece — A Rare Stony-Iron Meteorite From High in the Atacama Desert
Mesosiderite - A1
Atacama Desert (Antofagasta Province), Chile (25° 45'S, 70° 30'W)

91 x 84 x 44 mm (3⅝ x 3¼ x 1¾ inches). 476 grams (1.05 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A RARE STONY-IRON METEORITE FROM HIGH IN THE ATACAMA DESERT

Vaca Muerta fell to Earth approximately 3,500 years ago, a dating made possible through Carbon-14 analysis. It would have been bombarded with cosmic rays as it drifted through space, but once it fell to Earth and was protected by our atmosphere, the carbon-14 atoms begin their slow and steady decay. As a result, measuring the proportion of carbon-12 to carbon-14 atoms can give us the approximate date that this and other meteorites landed.

The original pieces of Vaca Muerta were discovered in the middle of the 19th century by miners who saw the gleaming iron-nickel metal in the meteorite and believed they had found the beginnings of a silver vein. However, the site was quickly forgotten, only to be rediscovered in 1985 by Edmundo Martinez, a young geology student from the Universidad del Norte in Antofagasta. Indeed, nearby to the rediscovered find were mining tools, cooking utensils, cans, nails, and a coin dated from 1871, clearly the belongings of the original miners who knew of the site.

Vaca Muerta is a mesosiderite, and is therefore a stony-iron meteorite alongside the pallasites. Like the pallasites, mesosiderates are extremely rare, with only .45% of meteorites — or about 1 in 220 — being classified as mesosiderites. However, whereas pallasites emerge from the mantle-core boundary of an asteroid, mesosiderites originate from violent collisions between stony and iron meteorites, creating incredibly unique looks to each one. This meteorite end piece is special because it has a large nickel inclusion that has since oxidized and turned green, alongside additional nickel on the uncut side.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Vaca Muerta

To see our full Digital Catalogue, including videos and slideshows, please visit our website.

https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/vaca-muerta-end-piece

Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

96

Gibeon Meteorite Sphere

A Sculpture From One of the Largest Meteorite Strewn Fields

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Gibeon Meteorite Sphere — A Sculpture From One of the Largest Meteorite Strewn Fields
Iron – IVA
Great Namaqualand, Namibia (25° 30'S, 18° 0'E)

40 mm (1⅝ inches) in diameter. 276 grams (.61 lb).

6 inches tall in bell jar presentation, including wood base and plexiglass stands.

CATALOGUE NOTE

AN IRON METEORITE SCULPTED INTO A SPHERE

In the late 1830s, the Royal Geographic Society invited British army captain James Edward Alexander to join an expeditionary force exploring the interior of the African continent. While in southern Africa, Alexander and his crew of eight obtained samples of iron which they were told came from large iron masses on the east side of the Fish River, running through the center of southern Namibia. Alexander and his team sent the samples back to Britain where John Herschel, the 19th century polymath famous for his invention of the blueprint as well as his chemical and astronomical findings, analyzed the samples and found them to be of meteoritic origin.

Although this is when the Gibeon meteorite became known to Western science, the meteorite had fallen thousands of years earlier and was already well known to the Nama people who lived in the area of Great Namaqualand. The Nama used the iron from Gibeon to create tools and weapons including the heads of their assegais, a type of polearm or spear common to much of Africa before the introduction of firearms. In the 1840s and 1850s, as European farmers and ranchers began to settle the area in larger numbers, many more Gibeon masses became known, collected, and traded, such that more than 26 tons of Gibeon have now been recovered from what is one of the largest strewn fields on Earth.

The current offering is a beautiful iron Gibeon meteorite shaped into a dense, spherical sculpture, with troilite (iron sulfide) inclusions evident on the surface. This meteoritic sculpture comes with the beautiful bell jar, wood base, and plexiglass stand seen here.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Gibeon

To see our full Digital Catalogue, including videos and slideshows, please visit our website.

https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/gibeon-meteorite-sphere

Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

97

NWA 7274 End Piece

A Lunar Meteorite Resembling Apollo 16 Soil Samples

Estimate:7,000 - 10,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

NWA 7274 End Piece — A Lunar Meteorite Resembling Apollo 16 Soil Samples
Lunar – feldspathic breccia
Northwest Africa

75 x 39 x 27 mm (3 x 1½ x 1 inches). 82.23 grams (.18 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A LUNAR METEORITE RESEMBLING APOLLO 16 SOIL SAMPLES

NWA 7274 is an aesthetic, fragmental breccia with anorthositic clasts in a dark, almost jet black matrix. In addition, NWA 7274 has what is called a moderate "KREEP" component, standing for "Potassium, Rare Earth Elements, and Phosphorus." These elements do not normally exist in the lunar crust that emerged from the Moon's magma ocean, but this KREEP element may have been trapped between the crust and the mantle, possibly erupting to the surface where it became lodged in this section of the Moon.

Lunar material is some of the rarest material to exist on our planet — only 1,536 kilograms (3,386 lb) of confirmed lunar meteorites currently exist on Earth. And, while six of the Apollo missions brought back 382 kilograms (842 lb) of so-called "Moon rocks" from their combined voyages, these samples of the Moon are unavailable for private ownership. As a result, any piece of lunar material is exceedingly rare and highly sought after by both institutions and private collectors.

Until the first lunar meteorite was identified on Earth on January 17, 1982, the geologic history and surface composition of the Moon could only be studied from samples collected during the Apollo and Luna missions. Since these were exclusively harvested from the central near side of the Moon, the 1982 discovery proved to be a crucial scientific breakthrough. Thanks to the progressive retrieval on Earth of meteorite fragments originating from all areas of the Moon, invaluable and previously unattainable information about lunar geology has since become available.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for NWA 7274

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https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/nwa-7274-end-piece

Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

98

Dronino Meteorite

A Gorgeously Patinated Iron Meteorite in the Shape of Driftwood

Estimate:20,000 - 30,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Dronino Meteorite — A Gorgeously Patinated Iron Meteorite in the Shape of Driftwood
Iron – ungrouped
Ryazan District, Russia (54° 44' 48'' N, 41° 25' 18'' E)

445 x 191 x 102 mm (17½ x 7½ x 4 inches). 19.7 kilograms (43.4 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A GORGEOUSLY PATINATED IRON METEORITE IN THE SHAPE OF DRIFTWOOD

The Dronino meteorite was discovered in the year 2000 by a mushroom hunter, Oleg Gus′kov, as he was returning home to Moscow from a mushroom hunting trip near the village of Dronino in the Ryazan region. In early 2003, a piece of the meteorite was taken to the Vernadsky, the Institute of Geochemistry and Analytical Chemistry of the Russian Academy of Sciences, where they identified it as a meteorite. Of course, the Vernadsky has a storied history, not least of which includes the role it played in the identification and collection of the Sikhote-Alin meteorites (see Lots 71 & 84).

This stunning Dronino meteorite, a rare ataxite like Chinga (see Lot 101), is covered in an almost otherworldly silvery patina and sculpted only by nature into the shape of driftwood. As with all iron meteorites, it originated from the core of an asteroid that broke apart following a violent collision in the asteroid belt, at which point it would have been bumped into an Earth-crossing orbit before making its way through the atmosphere and to the Earth′s surface.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Dronino

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https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/dronino-meteorite

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

99

Complete Slice of the Ahumada Meteorite

From an Early 20th Century Mexican Find

Estimate:8,000 - 12,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of the Ahumada Meteorite — From an Early 20th Century Mexican Find
Pallasite – PMG
Chihuahua, Mexico (30° 42'N, 105° 30'W)

187 x 119 x 6 cm (7⅜ x 4⅝ x ¼ inches). 382 grams (.84 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A PALLASITE FROM AN EARLY 20TH CENTURY MEXICAN FIND

As in the case with all pallasites, Ahumada originated from the core-mantle boundary of a differentiated asteroid, which is an asteroid that was once hot enough for melting to occur, allowing denser and less dense materials to segregate into core, mantle, and crust layers. Ahumada was found in 1909 as a single 116 pound (52.6 kg) meteorite in the deserts of Chihuahua, Mexico, about 60 miles east of the town of Ahumada. As one of the original cuttings, this slice is quite a bit thicker than most modern pallasite slices: 6 millimeters as opposed to the more common 3 millimeters found today. One side has been etched and polished to bring out the Widmanstätten pattern hidden in the pallasite′s iron-nickel matrix, while the other side has maintained its original look after cutting.

Pallasites such as Ahumada are incredibly rare, accounting for .2% — or just 1 out of 500 — of all meteorite finds. The olivine crystals found embedded in Ahumada are the remnants of pieces of an asteroid′s stony mantle becoming suspended in the molten metal of its iron-nickel core. The prominent metallic latticework found on the display side of the slice is referred to as a Widmanstätten pattern and is the result of slow cooling over millions of years, providing sufficient time for the two iron-nickel alloys present in the meteorite to orient into a crystalline habit. As Widmanstätten patterns can only occur within certain types of asteroids in the vacuum of space, their presence is diagnostic in the identification of a meteorite.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Ahumada

To see our full Digital Catalogue, including videos and slideshows, please visit our website.

https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/complete-slice-of-the-ahumada-meteorite

Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

100

Complete Slice of NWA 13381

Featuring the Oldest Solid Matter in Our Solar System

Estimate:1,000 - 1,500 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of NWA 13381 — Featuring the Oldest Solid Matter in Our Solar System
Carbonaceous Chondrite – CK3
Northwest Africa

98 x 58 x 3.5 mm (3⅞ x 2¼ x ⅛ inches). 36.48 grams (182.4 carats).

CATALOGUE NOTE

FEATURING THE OLDEST SOLID MATTER IN OUR SOLAR SYSTEM

An unbelievably striking and colorful meteorite slice that bears quite a resemblance to a llama's head (or is it a Wookiee?), NWA 13381 features both extremely aesthetic and colorful chondrules as well as pristine calcium-aluminum-rich inclusions, the oldest solids in our universe. In fact, it is the dating of these inclusions that has given us our most recent estimate for the age of the Solar System: 4.567 billion years old.

World-renowned geochemist Tony Irving, of the University of Washington, analyzed this meteorite and found that it is one of the least metamorphosed of this rare type of Karoonda-type meteorite, one of the reasons why the chondrules are so pristine and intact. This meteorite bears witness to the beginnings of our universe in one of the most aesthetic ways possible.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for NWA 13381

To see our full Digital Catalogue, including videos and slideshows, please visit our website.

https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/complete-slice-of-nwa-13381

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

101

Complete Slice of a Chinga Meteorite

A Rare Ataxite Polished to a Mirror Finish on One Side

Estimate:2,500 - 3,500 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of a Chinga Meteorite — A Rare Ataxite Polished to a Mirror Finish on One Side
Iron – ungrouped
Respublika Tyva, Russia (51° 3' 30"N, 94° 24' 0"E)

219 x 141 x 5 mm (8⅝ x 5½ x ¼ inches). 906 grams (2.0 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A RARE ATAXITE METEORITE POLISHED TO A MIRROR FINISH

The Chinga meteorite is a very rare type of iron meteorite known as an ataxite. Ataxites contain a high amount of nickel compared to other iron meteorites. As a result, when etched and polished, they don't reveal any Widmanstätten pattern when looked at with the naked eye, as the low-nickel iron alloy kamacite has been crowded out by the higher-nickel iron alloy taenite. Chinga contains between 16% and 17% nickel, at which point a visible Widmanstätten pattern is unable to form. Because of this rare fact, the display side of this Chinga meteorite slice has been able to be etched and polished to an almost mirror-like finish.

Given that most iron meteorites show a Widmanstätten pattern when etched, ataxites are not easily identified as meteorites and can often be mistaken for iron slag. Nickel tests (alongside microscopic examination) are essential for identifying ataxites as meteorites. Because ataxites are much more uncommon than other iron meteorites, they are highly sought after by collectors, especially in the condition of a slice like the one offered here.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Chinga

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https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/complete-slice-of-a-chinga-meteorite

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

102

Partial Slice of the Miles Meteorite

A Substantial Australian Iron With Unusual Silicate Inclusions

Estimate:7,000 - 10,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Partial Slice of the Miles Meteorite — A Substantial Australian Iron With Unusual Silicate Inclusions
Iron – IIE
Queensland, Australia (27° 50'S, 150° 20'E)

369 x 200 x 7 mm (14½ x 7⅞ x ¼ inches). 2,080 grams (4.58 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A BEGUILING SILICATED IRON FROM AUSTRALIA

Although this Miles meteorite slice looks superficially like a pallasite, it is in fact a silicated iron meteorite, found 300 kilometers west of Brisbane on the eastern cusp of the Australian Outback in 1992. The large percentage of iron-nickel matrix with small pockets of orange pyroxenes — resembling the drips of a Jackson Pollock painting — give Miles a particularly unique and striking look. One side has also been etched and polished to bring out the Widmanstätten pattern in the meteorite, a result of slow cooling over millions of years that provided sufficient time for the two iron-nickel alloys present in the meteorite to orient into a crystalline habit.

The Miles meteorite has been important to scientific research on the formation of our solar system's early protoplanets. Researchers from MIT, Oxford, Arizona State, Berkeley, and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory studied the magnetic signature of Miles, noting there were numerous directions of magnetic bias in different parts of the meteorite. As such, the researchers proposed that Miles was subjected to a "dynamo-generated magnetic field powered by the parent body's churning, molten-metal core" — very similar to the mechanism that powers Earth's magnetic field today.

A gorgeous, rare, and unique Australian meteorite (much like the Henbury and Bencubbin meteorites also offered in this sale: see Lots 77 and 107), only about 220 pounds (100 kg) of the total 584 pounds (265 kg) of this meteorite were allowed to be exported to the United States by the Australian government, with the rest remaining in its home country.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Miles

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https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/partial-slice-of-the-miles-meteorite

Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

103

NWA 5549

A Complete Slice of a Silicated Iron Meteorite

Estimate:1,500 - 2,500 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

NWA 5549 — A Complete Slice of a Silicated Iron Meteorite
Iron – IAB-MG
Northwest Africa

198 x 95 x 4 mm (7¾ x 3¾ x ⅛ inches). 306 grams (.67 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A COMPLETE SLICE OF A SILICATED IRON METEORITE

As a silicated iron meteorite, NWA 5549 features a large number of crystalline inclusions throughout the iron-nickel matrix of the meteorite. The matrix shows a course Widmanstätten pattern, larger and much more irregular than on most other iron meteorites, demonstrating that the metallic portion of this meteorite is relatively low in nickel and thus made up mostly of high-iron kamacite alloy.

Researchers believe that meteorites in the IAB group, including NWA 5549, were formed neither in the core of an asteroid like most iron meteorites, nor at the core-mantle boundary of an asteroid like most pallasites, but were instead created near the surface of an asteroid following an impact that produced superheated melt pools where iron and silicate constituents could separate from each other before recombining.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for NWA 5549

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https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/nwa-5549

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104

Complete Slice of NWA 6932

An Aesthetic Iron Meteorite from Northwest Africa

Estimate:2,500 - 3,500 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of NWA 6932 — An Aesthetic Iron Meteorite from Northwest Africa
Iron – ungrouped
Northwest Africa

242 x 126 x 5 mm (9½ x 5 x ¼ inches). 685 grams (1.51 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A RARE IRON METEORITE SHAPED LIKE A BIRD'S HEAD

NWA 6932 is a rare, ungrouped iron that, unlike most every other iron meteorite in existence, is made up almost entirely of plessite, the fine-grained intergrowth of the two most common iron-nickel alloys found in iron meteorites. Where one would normally expect there to be a Widmanstätten pattern across the surface of this slice, with distinct lines of kamacite and taenite clearly visible, instead one sees a uniform pattern of plessite with some kamacite crosses dotting the surface, as well as a large troilite (iron sulfide) "eye," giving this meteorite slice the uncanny look of a bird's head.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for NWA 6932

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

105

Complete Slice of a Brahin Meteorite

A Spectacular Meteorite from a Now Forbidden Impact Site

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of a Brahin Meteorite — A Spectacular Meteorite from a Now Forbidden Impact Site
Pallasite – PMG
Brahin District, Belarus (52° 30'N, 30° 20'E)

231 x 195 x 3 mm (9⅛ x 7⅝ x ⅛ in). 408 grams (.90 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A METEORITE FROM A NOW FORBIDDEN IMPACT SITE

Brahin pallasites were first discovered in what is now Belarus in 1810. Extremely rare, pallasites represent less than 0.2% of all known meteorites and are widely considered to be the most beautiful extraterrestrial substance known. Like the vast majority of pallasitic meteorites, Brahin originated from the mantle-core boundary of an asteroid that broke apart during the early history of our solar system. The term "pallasite" is named in honor of German scientist and polymath Peter Pallas, who was the first person to scientifically analyze a pallasitic mass – the meteorite Krasnojarsk – originally found in Siberia in 1749.

Both sides of this polished slice of Brahin reveal a mosaic of sparkling olivine and peridot (gem-quality olivine) crystals from the asteroid's mantle, suspended in a gleaming iron-nickel matrix originating from the asteroid's core. The search for additional specimens from the Brahin event is restricted as the Chernobyl nuclear reactor was built extremely close to Brahin's impact site and its strewn field is now off limits. Recovered long before the Chernobyl disaster, this exemplary specimen reveals the striking interior of a pallasite, a particularly beguiling extraterrestrial substance.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Brahin

To see our full Digital Catalogue, including videos and slideshows, please visit our website.

https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/complete-slice-of-a-brahin-meteorite

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

106

Ajdabiya 001

A Piece of the Moon Turned Into a Sphere

Estimate:15,000 - 25,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Ajdabiya 001 — A Piece of the Moon Turned Into a Sphere
Lunar – melt breccia
Ajdabiya, Libya (30° 41' 10"N, 20° 31' 5"E)

50 mm (2 inches) in diameter. 175 grams (.39 pounds).

3¼ inches tall on stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A PIECE OF THE MOON IN THE SHAPE OF A SPHERE

Formed into a sphere reminiscent of the Moon from which it came, this Ajdabiya 001 meteorite is a distinctive lunar meteorite with closely packed, unusually large, angular, light grey lithic clasts, some measuring up to 2 centimeters in length. These large clasts give Ajdabiya 001 a very unusual look, unlike other lunar meteorites. Adding to this sphere's visual interest are streaks of orange, red, and white, colors that are unusual in lunar samples.

Lunar material is some of the rarest material to exist on our planet — only 1,536 kilograms (3,386 lb) of confirmed lunar meteorites currently exist on Earth. And, while six of the Apollo missions brought back 382 kilograms (842 lb) of so-called "Moon rocks" from their combined voyages, these samples of the Moon are unavailable for private ownership. As a result, any piece of lunar material is exceedingly rare and highly sought after by both institutions and private collectors.

As with all meteorites that are shaped into spheres, they require the work of highly trained artisans and cutting-edge equipment to make, as the cutting, grinding, and polishing processes can all cause the piece to fracture. As such, any meteorite sphere — and particularly a lunar sphere — is quite a rarity.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Ajdabiya 001

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https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/ajdabiya-001

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

107

Complete Slice of Bencubbin

The Namesake of a Rare and Important Group of Meteorites

Estimate:10,000 - 15,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of Bencubbin — The Namesake of a Rare and Important Group of Meteorites
Carbonaceous Chondrite – CBa (Bencubbinite)
Bencubbin, Western Australia, Australia

124 x 109 x 2 mm (4⅞ x 4¼ x ⅛ inches). 91 grams (.20 pounds).

CATALOGUE NOTE

THE NAMESAKE OF A RARE AND IMPORTANT GROUP OF METEORITES

Bencubbin is the namesake of an extremely rare group of meteorites: the Bencubbinites. Like the other Bencubbinite in the sale (Gujba: See Lot 79), Bencubbin resulted from the violent collision of two different types of meteorites — an iron meteorite and a stony chondrite — which then collapsed together again to form this otherworldly-looking mixture of carbonaceous chondrite and iron-nickel. Given its mix of both stony and iron elements, it was originally classified as a stony-iron when it was found in 1930 on the western edge of the Australian Outback, northeast of Perth. However, given our more recent understanding of how this meteorite was formed, scientists gave it a classification all its own (which it now shares with just 25 other meteorites).

This slice in particular has played an important role in meteoritical science: on the non-display side, one can see where researchers cored a high-metal chondritic clast out of the slice. The presence of such a clast within Bencubbin suggests that high-metal carbonaceous chondrites (CH) and Bencubbin-like chondrites (CB) share a genetic relationship — namely, that they are all the product of the same superheated, impact-generated, metal-enriched gas that condensed on the surface of a stony asteroid.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Bencubbin

To see our full Digital Catalogue, including videos and slideshows, please visit our website.

https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/complete-slice-of-bencubbin

Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

108

Brenham Meteorite End Piece

From a Famous Kansas Find

Estimate:5,000 - 8,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Brenham Meteorite End Piece — From a Famous Kansas Find
Pallasite – PMG-an
Kiowa County, Kansas (37° 34' 57"N, 99° 9' 49"W)

232 x 160 x 30 mm (9⅛ x 6¼ x 1¼ inches). 3.84 kilograms (8.47 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

Brenham is in the running for the most storied American meteorite. In 1885, Frank and Eliza Kimberly claimed 160 acres of farmland in Kiowa, Kansas under the Homestead Act. Eliza noticed rocks on the farm, which she believed were meteorites, and made a rock pile on the land. After a number of years, she convinced a geologist from nearby Washburn College, F.W. Gragen, to come inspect the rocks, at which point he confirmed they were meteorites. Dr. Gragen purchased five of the specimens. Thus began a number of visits from geologists, including Robert Hay from the USGS and Francis Snow, the chancellor of the University of Kansas. Eventually, some of the Brenham meteorites that Drs. Gragen and Snow bought were sold to G.F. Kunz, the chief gemologist for Tiffany's who wrote a comprehensive history of the Brenham meteorite in June 13, 1890 in *Science*.

In 1923, Harvey Nininger, who would become the most famous meteorite dealer of all time but was then just a budding meteoriticist, bought some Brenham pieces from the Kimberlys, noting:

"These specimens from the 'meteorite farm' made a substantial addition to my young collection and were a substantial help to my thin bank roll when I made resales of parts of them. In 1927 I purchased a mass weighing 465 pounds, turned up by a plow boy. Ultimately I added a half ton of Brenham to my collection before the supply seemed to be exhausted."

Although a number of pieces of Brenham would continue to be found over the years, it would be decades until the next major find occurred, in September 2005, by meteorite hunters Phil Mani and Steve Arnold. Knowing the history of the Brenham "meteorite farm" and equipped with modern metal detectors, Mani and Arnold found the largest Brenham piece in existence: a 1,433 pound flight-oriented mass that would eventually make its way into exhibition at Space Center Houston. Over a number of months, Mani and Arnold found 36 meteorites in the Brenham strewn field, only 4 of which contained only iron and no silicates, a meteorite known as a siderite and extremely rare when coming from a

known pallasite. The end piece offered here in from one of those siderites, cut to reveal an aesthetic "hole" at the center.

The Brenham meteorite created the Haviland Meteor Crater, one of only three authenticated meteor craters in the United States and the only one created by a pallasite. As pieces of Brenham have been found in the burial mounds of Hopewell Indians in Little Miami Valley, OH, over 1,000 miles away and more than 1,500 years old, we can infer that Brenham meteorites and their metal were revered objects for Native Americans. Indeed, as meteorites were the main source of iron for ancient people, some pieces were used to make knives, jewelry, chisels, buttons, and beads. As the nickel in these meteorites created a strong and often rust-resistant metal, it would have been very highly prized.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Brenham

Noda, Mitch. "Brenham, Kansas Meteorite Farm." *Meteorite Times Magazine*, May 1, 2024.

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https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/brenham-meteorite-end-piece

Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

109

Complete Slice of NWA 1879

A Rare Stony-Iron Mesosiderite With Significant Iron-Nickel Inclusions

Estimate:1,000 - 1,500 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of NWA 1879 — A Rare Stony-Iron Mesosiderite With Significant Iron-Nickel Inclusions
Mesosiderite-C
Northwest Africa

74 x 57 x 4 mm (2⅞ x 2¼ x ⅛ inches). 46 grams (230 carats).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A MESOSIDERITE WITH LARGE IRON-NICKEL INCLUSIONS

NWA 1879 is a mesosiderite, a type of meteorite produced by a violent outerspace collision between a stony and an iron meteorite. Mesosiderites are quite rare, representing less than .5% — or 1 out of 200 — of all meteorites ever found. Especially prominent in this shield-shaped slice of NWA 1879 are large iron-nickel inclusions that bear witness to the collision of asteroids, their decomposition, and then re-solidification that made this meteorite possible.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for NWA 1879

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

110

Complete Slice of NWA 8127

Featuring Shock Lines Created When Launched Off the Moon

Estimate:7,000 - 10,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of NWA 8127 — Featuring Shock Lines Created When Launched Off the Moon
Lunar – gabbro
Northwest Africa

142 x 78 x 3 mm (5⅝ x 3⅛ x ⅛ inches). 50 grams (.11 pounds).

CATALOGUE NOTE

A LUNAR METEORITE WITH MASKELYNITE GLASS SHOCK VEINS THROUGHOUT

This slice of the rare and exceedingly unique NWA 8127 is composed of olivine gabbro, giving it a distinctive and stunning green hue with black lines running throughout. These lines are shock veins, where portions of the gabbro were converted to a glass known as maskelynite, caused by a violent impact event that launched NWA 8127 off the lunar surface.

Lunar material is some of the rarest material to exist on our planet — only 1,536 kilograms (3,386 lb) of confirmed lunar meteorites currently exist on Earth. And, while six of the Apollo missions brought back 382 kilograms (842 lb) of so-called "Moon rocks" from their combined voyages, these samples of the Moon are unavailable for private ownership. As a result, any piece of lunar material is exceedingly rare and highly sought after by both institutions and private collectors.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for NWA 8127

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

111

Complete Slice of Itqiy

A Highly Unusual Enstatite Chondrite

Estimate:8,000 - 12,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Itqiy — A Highly Unusual Enstatite Chondrite
EH7-an
Saguia el Hamra, Western Sahara (26° 35' 27"N, 12° 57' 8"W)

137 x 83 x 3 mm (5⅜ x 3¼ x ⅛ inches). 80 grams (.18 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

AN GORGEOUS AND UNUSUAL METEORITE SLICE STUDIED BY THE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

The Itqiy meteorite is an enstatite, a highly unusual type of chondrite that has made classification extremely difficult. While Itqiy is classified as an enstatite chondrite, this slice of Itqiy looks both achondritic and like a stony-iron, with approximately three quarters of the slice being silicates, and the rest being iron-nickel alloy. The texture and look of Itqiy is extremely unique, and because it has proved so anomalous, it will continue to be an important meteorite for scientists to study. This exact piece has been used by Dr. Denton Ebel of the American Museum of Natural History to study the enstatite meteorites.

As Itqiy's metallic content is present as solid metal rather than bound to oxygen, researchers have proposed that Itqiy formed in a low-oxygen environment closer to the inner edge of the solar system, perhaps around Mercury or Venus. Later, it would have transited to the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, from whence it was hit into an Earth-crossing orbit and fell to our planet.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Itqiy

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

112

Canyon Diablo End Piece

From the Most Famous Meteorite Crater on Earth

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Canyon Diablo End Piece — From the Most Famous Meteorite Crater on Earth
Iron – IAB-MG
Meteor Crater, Coconino County, Arizona, USA (35° 3'N, 111° 2'W)

188 x 123 x 56 mm (7⅜ x 4⅞ x 2¼ inches). 2,440 grams (5.38 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

FROM THE MOST FAMOUS METEOR CRATER ON EARTH

This Canyon Diablo meteorite originates from Meteor Crater northeast of Sedona, Arizona, the most famous and best-preserved meteorite crater on Earth. Like most meteorites, this piece originated in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, and was part of a tremendous iron mass that plowed into the desert approximately 50,000 years ago, forming Meteor Crater in an explosion estimated to have had a force of between 2 and 20 million tons of TNT. Most of the mass vaporized on impact while fragments were flung as far as 11 miles from the impact site.

The dark speckles around the edge of this Canyon Diablo end piece indicate that this specimen was "shocked," evidence that this piece was very close to the impact point between the asteroid and the Earth's surface, causing a metamorphosis of the specimen's internal structure. Shock-blackening has been found in a number of specimens collected close to the rim of Meteor Crater.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Canyon Diablo

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

113

Complete Slice of NWA 5717

A Cosmic Window Into the Early Solar System

Estimate:6,000 - 9,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Complete Slice of NWA 5717 — A Cosmic Window Into the Early Solar System
Chondrite – ungrouped
Northwest Africa

152 x 135 x 3 mm (6 x 5¼ x ⅛ inches). 174 grams (.38 lb).

A small repair is visible at the top right of the specimen.

CATALOGUE NOTE

A COSMIC WINDOW INTO THE EARLY SOLAR SYSTEM

NWA 5717 is a remarkable meteorite that looks like a swirling nebula frozen within rock, with light areas dancing against a dark background. It may be no surprise, then, that NWA 5717, a primitive and almost entirely unheated chondrite, is in fact a physical record of the earliest days of our solar nebula, providing evidence for the ways that planets were formed in the protoplanetary disk. Namely, the light areas of this slice show minimal alteration, while the dark areas point to heavy alteration, a sign that particles may have been ″clumping″ together here in order to form a very early planetary body. This very meteorite slice, in fact, was used by researchers to study the formation of protoplanets (See Simon, J.I. *et al* below).

This meteorite represents the very earliest days of planetary accretion within the solar nebula, when chondrules were finding ways to come together to create larger bodies. The light, relatively unaltered chondrules, being held together by the more heavily altered dark chondritic material, are a beautiful, physical manifestation of the beginning of our solar system.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for NWA 5717

Simon, J.I. *et al.* “Particle Size Distributions in Chondritic Meteorites: Evidence for Pre-Planetesimal Histories.” *Earth and Planetary Science Letters* 494 (2018): 69–82.

To see our full Digital Catalogue, including videos and slideshows, please visit our website.

https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/complete-slice-of-nwa-5717

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

114

Belle Plaine Meteorite End Piece

Formerly in the Collection of Meteorite Collector Oscar Monnig

Estimate:10,000 - 15,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Belle Plaine Meteorite End Piece — Formerly in the Collection of Oscar Monnig
Chondrite – L6
Sumner Country, Kansas, United States (37° 19'N, 97° 15'W)

230 x 225 x 100 mm (9 x 8⅞ x 3⅞ inches). 6.95 kilograms (15.32 lb).

PROVENANCE

Originally from the collection of Oscar E. Monnig

CATALOGUE NOTE

FORMERLY IN THE COLLECTION OF OSCAR MONNIG

This meteorite was found in July 1950 outside of the town of Belle Plaine in southern Kansas. It was once owned by Oscar Monnig, one of the most important meteorite collectors of the 20th century. Although it may be an "ordinary" chondrite, its size, weight, and unbelievable mix of black and green inside, with a light apple-green chondrule located prominently at the bottom, make it a sight to behold. The light brown outer crust provides a beautiful contrast to the dark coloration inside. A 17-gram piece of this meteorite was sent to the Smithsonian shortly after it was found, and remains there today.

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for Belle Plaine

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Natural History, Including The Juvenile Ceratosaurus, and the Largest Piece of Mars on Earth

New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

115

Main Mass of NWA 12759

A Monumental Stony Meteorite

Estimate:40,000 - 60,000 USD

Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Main Mass of NWA 12759 — A Monumental and Striking Stony Meteorite
Chondrite – L5
Northwest Africa

470 x 381 x 279 mm (18½ x 15 x 11 inches). 50 kilograms (110 lb).

With custom wood base.

CATALOGUE NOTE

THE MAIN MASS OF A MONUMENTAL AND STRIKING STONY METEORITE FOUND IN THE SAHARA DESERT

Originating from the L chondrite parent asteroid (hypothesized to be either 433 Eros or a member of the Flora family of asteroids), this large and sculptural main mass of NWA 12759 displays regmaglypts – thumb-sized impressions – that formed during the meteorite's fiery descent through Earth's atmosphere. Its partial red, brown, and grey surface patina is a result of the extended time it spent in the harsh Sahara Desert.

As with all chondrites, this specimen is characterized by the presence of chondrules, or spherical grains made up of silicate-rich minerals (such as olivine and pyroxene) that are some of the oldest solid materials in our Solar System and are considered to be the building blocks of the planets. Upon entry into Earth's atmosphere, NWA 12759 would have been traveling at cosmic velocity (ranging from 25,000 to 160,000 miles per hour), with the surrounding air heating to over 1,700 °C (3,100 °F) and producing a large fireball. The heat was sufficient to melt the outer surface of the stone, exposing a new surface which in turn also ablated – vaporized and stripped away – leaving behind a new surface, along with the characteristic regmaglypts found on many meteorites. The last molten layer to form as it descended to the ground covered the meteorite in a layer of fusion crust, which currently surrounds the specimen and the chondrules inside.

Dr. Alan E. Rubin, Researcher-Curator of the UCLA Meteorite Collection, Department of Earth, Planetary, and Space Sciences, says of this particular specimen:

"This beautiful individual sample of the NWA 12759 L5 chondrite has a smooth posterior fusion crust where meteoritic melt pooled as the rock descended through the atmosphere and was heated by friction with molecules of air. The meteorite is from the L chondrite asteroid that was destroyed by an energetic collision 470 million years ago."

REFERENCES:

Meteoritical Bulletin Entry for NWA 12759

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https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/main-mass-of-nwa-12759

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

116

Libyan Desert Glass

When an Asteroid Collides With Earth

Estimate:1,000 - 2,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ♾ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Libyan Desert Glass — When an Asteroid Collides With Earth
Tektite/Impactite
The Great Sand Sea, Sahara Desert, Egypt/Libya border region

3¼ x 2⅛ x 2 inches (8.3 x 5.4 x 5.1 cm), 5½ inches (14 cm) on stand. 85 grams (.19 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

Libyan Desert Glass is a *tektite*, or a silicated glass formation (from the Greek *tektos*, meaning "melted"). Tektites are named for the localities in which they are found, hence: Australites, Indochinites, Philippinites, Libyan Desert Glass, etc. They are the result of asteroids slamming into and melting the Earth's surface—the extraordinary heat and pressure liquifies terrestrial rocks, which are splashed into the atmosphere before returning to Earth as solidified glass. Tektites are terrestrial in origin, with the impact event responsible for Libyan Desert Glass having occurred approximately 28.5 million years ago in the southwest corner of the Great Sand Sea near what is currently the Egypt/Libya border.

The higher the silica content in the melted material, the lighter the color. Libyan Desert Glass is 98% silica (molten sand) and is yellow-hued whereas other tektites range from green (Moldavites) to jet black (Australites). This example is a gorgeous golden color with a matte surface that reflects light off of its many sides. Libyan Desert Glass was used as a gemstone in Pharaonic Egypt, and an especially coveted specimen was discovered in the tomb of King Tutankhamun.

In this sale, in addition to Libyan Desert Glass, we are offering tektites from three of Earth's recognized tektite strewn fields: see Lots 117, 118, & 119.

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117

Georgiaite

Formed Over 35 Million Years Ago From the Creation of the Chesapeake Bay Impact Crater

Estimate:1,500 - 2,500 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Georgiaite — Formed Over 35 Million Years Ago From the Creation of the Chesapeake Bay Impact Crater
Tektite
Georgia, U.S.A.

56 x 37 x 11 mm (2¼ x 1½ x ⅜ inches). 28.06 grams (140.3 carats).

CATALOGUE NOTE

Approximately 35.5 million years ago, a large comet or meteoroid struck the east coast of what in now the United States, creating the Chesapeake Bay impact crater and sending an incalculable amount of debris flying off of the Earth's surface. Some of that debris launched into the atmosphere at an extremely high rate of speed where it melted, cooled and re-solidified into glass on its trip back down to Earth, producing the georgiaite tektites.

Georgiaites are part of the North American tektite strewn field, and are one of only two types of tektites found there (the other being Bediasites from Texas). They would have flown hundreds of miles to their eventual resting place in Georgia and parts of South Carolina.

Georgiaites like the current example are often olive green, and the current example is particularly impressive for its size, symmetry, and translucency.

In addition to this lot, we are offering superlative tektites from two of Earth's other recognized tektite strewn fields (as well as Libyan Desert Glass): See Lots 116, 118 & 119.

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

118

Australite

A Type of Flanged Button Tektite That Helped NASA Design the Apollo Command Module

Estimate:2,000 - 3,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Australite — A Type of Flanged Button Tektite That Helped NASA Design the Apollo Command Module
Tektite

21mm (¾ inch) diameter, 12mm (½ inch) in height. Approximately 8 grams (40 carats).

CATALOGUE NOTE

Australites are a rare type of tektite that resulted from an asteroid strike in Southeast Asia approximately 750 to 800 thousand years ago. Found in the Australasian strewn field along with Indochinites and Philippinites, Australites button tektites with perfectly formed flanges are extremely rare.

Australite button tektites formed when silica-rich sediment was blasted high into the atmosphere in a molten state. As the mass began to fall, molten glass would climb up the sides, producing flow ridges that eventually turned into high flanged walls, as seen here. As a result, flanged button tektites like this are an extremely aerodynamic shape, and were studied by NASA when designing their re-entry capsules for the Apollo missions.

Charles Darwin was the first person to describe Australites in western scientific literature when, in 1844, he published a few pages on a "volcanic bomb of obsidian" given to him in Sydney in 1836 (or possibly London in 1838) by explorer Thomas Mitchell. Although Darwin did not know it at the time, Australites are not of volcanic origin (as they are impact glasses resulting from asteroid strikes), nor are they obsidian, as again, they are not of volcanic origin and contain a much lower water content than volcanic glasses.

In addition to this lot, we are offering tektites from two of Earth's other recognized tektite strewn fields (in addition to Libyan Desert Glass): See Lots 116, 117, & 119.

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

119

Moldavite

Formed Nearly 15 Million Years Ago from the Strike That Created Germany's Nördlinger Ries Crater

Estimate:1,000 - 2,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ♾ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Moldavite — Formed Nearly 15 Million Years Ago from the Strike That Created Germany's Nördlinger Ries Crater
Tektite

40 x 32 x 10 mm (1⅝ x 1¼ x ⅜ inches). 9.7 grams (48.5 carats).

3 inches on stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

Moldavites are a type of tektite, or impact glass, found in the Czech Republic and named after the town of Moldautein (Czech: Týn nad Vltavou) where these pieces were first discovered. Formed approximately 14.8 million years ago by the same meteoroid impact that produced the Nördlinger Ries crater in Bavaria, moldavites formed from debris flung high into the atmosphere, where it melted, cooled, and then solidified into glass on its trip back to Earth.

Moldavites from Besednice in the Czech Republic — of which this is one — are renowned for their high quality and sculptural appearance and have only been found as very small specimens. Examples nearing 10 grams in weight, such as this one, are exceedingly rare.

In addition to this lot, we are offering tektites from two of Earth's other recognized tektite strewn fields (in addition to Libyan Desert Glass): See Lots 116, 117 & 118. In addition, German Sand Spikes (Lot 120) are also the product of the Nördlinger Ries meteoroid strike.

Note: The current specimen features an unidentified collection number on the reverse: "WZ189."

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

120

Pair of German Sand Spikes

Miocene Epoch (approx. 14.8 million years ago), Upper Freshwater Molasse, North Alpine Foreland Basin, Germany

Estimate:3,000 - 5,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Pair of German Sand Spikes
Middle Miocene, Langhian (approx. 14.8 million years ago)
Upper Freshwater Molasse, North Alpine Foreland Basin, Germany

The smaller set of spikes measures 22½ x 5 x 3 inches (57.2 x 12.7 x 7.6 cm), 22 inches (55.9 cm) tall on stand. Larger set of spikes measures 19½ x 9 x 7 inches (49.5 x 22.9 x 17.8 cm), 21 inches (53.3 cm) tall on stand. 27 pounds (12.2 kg) combined.

CATALOGUE NOTE

German Sand Spikes are a type of seismite, or a structure formed by seismic activity. In this case the cause was the asteroid that struck east of what is now Stuttgart, Germany, producing the Nördlinger Ries impact crater 14.8 million years ago. Sand spikes were created when violent shaking forced water out of wet sand, which then became heated to the point of explosion, creating a spike-shaped cavern that new sand rapidly filled in, and was then cemented over with calcite. The tails of these spikes grew away from the seismic activity, in the direction of wave propagation. As such, sand spikes all orient with their tails pointing away from the Nördlinger Ries crater in the North Alpine Foreland Basin in Southwest Germany.

Made up principally of quartz, feldspar, mica, and associated minerals, these German Sand Spikes bear a striking resemblance to sand spikes found near Mount Signal, west of the San Andreas Fault Line on the California-Mexico border. These sand spikes are also attributed to the seismic activity occurring in the area, and their tails also point away from the shaking caused by the tectonic fault. There are very few other places in the world where such sand spikes are found, making these rare and scarce objects.

The same meteoroid strike that produced these sand spikes also produced Moldavite tektites: see Lot 119.

REFERENCES:

Buchner, Elmar, Volker J. Sach, and Martin Schmieder. "Sand spikes pinpoint powerful palaeoseismicity." *Nature Communications* 12: 6731 (2021).

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

121

Fulgurite

"Lightning Preserved in Glass"

Estimate:4,000 - 6,000 USD

☐ No Reserves ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

Fulgurite — "Lightning Preserved in Glass"
Sahara Desert, Egypt

13½ x 3½ x 2½ inches (34.3 x 8.9 x 6.4 cm), 13 inches (33 cm) on custom metal stand. 216 grams (.48 lb).

CATALOGUE NOTE

Named for the Latin word for lightning (*"fulgur"*), fulgurite forms when lightning strikes the earth, causing the ground—in this case, the sand of the Sahara desert—to sinter and vitrify, creating long rods of silica glass. This long and lightweight specimen may be reminiscent of tree bark, but it is in fact the physical manifestation of lightning, beautifully captured and preserved.

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New York | 16 Jul 2025 | 04:00 PM CEST

122

[The Lost World: Jurassic Park (1997)]

Original LED Sign From SEGA's The Lost World: Jurassic Park™ Light Gun Arcade Game, ca. 1997

Estimate:20,000 - 30,000 USD

∏ Monumental Item ₿ Cryptocurrency Payments

DESCRIPTION

[The Lost World: Jurassic Park (1997)]
Original LED Sign From SEGA's The Lost World: Jurassic Park™ Light Gun Arcade Game, ca. 1997

132 x 76 x 10 inches (335 x 193 x 25 cm). 550 pounds (249.5 kg).

Original *The Lost World: Jurassic Park* logo on acrylic panel over LED lights, surrounded by gray plaster stone enclosure decorated with artificial fauna in various shades of green, mounted to black plywood base. Rigged for wall hanging, with custom metal stand.

CATALOGUE NOTE

In the summer of '97, SEGA stole the show at E3 with the announcement of their upcoming release, *The Lost World: Jurassic Park™*. An early experiment in immersive gaming, *The Lost World: Jurassic Park™* was the first "theater-style gaming cabinet" on the market, designed to replicate the embodied experience of moviegoing in an arcade environment. With 50-inch monitors, in-cabinet multi-speaker surround sound, and action-responsive seats, *TLW™* encouraged gamers to fully enter Spielberg's *Jurassic* universe with all senses engaged.

SEGA's dedication to *The Lost World's*™ immersive environment extended to the outside of the cabinet, designing enclosures to be built around the game itself that mirrored the dark, jungle-like environments of Spielberg's franchise. SEGA developers even travelled from Japan to Los Angeles to meet with Stan Winston—the legendary production and special effects designer behind the first three *Jurassic* films—to ensure the authenticity and continuity of *TLW™* and its cabinet design. While exact designs varied from location to location, the enclosures designed by SEGA included signs like the lot on offer here—[LED], plaster, and plywood creations bearing the inverted version of Chip Kidd's iconic *Jurassic Park* logo that served as the hero art for the franchise's second film.

The Lost World: Jurassic Park™ built on an existing collaboration between SEGA, Universal Studios, and Dreamworks SKG (Spielberg is the "S" at the end of the company's moniker) that began in 1996, as the three parties came together to found and develop the US-based arcade franchise, Gameworks. Then in its second year of operation, Gameworks was one of two exclusive locations at which *TLW™* was available, the second being Joypolis arcades in Japan. The present example likely came out of the arcade at Universal Studios theme park in Hollywood.

Spielberg is not only the father of the modern summer blockbuster, but also, a pioneer in the world film licensing and promotion. Signaling the end of the New Hollywood and the "beginning of the mass-cultural,

late-capitalistic supernova that defined the next few decades," the 1975 release of *Jaws* permanently altered the landscape of marketing a studio's tentpole release as the first film to benefit from Universal's new concept of "Exhibitor Relations." Under the direction of new hire Steve Kallan, the *Jaws* campaign expanded the concept of movie marketing beyond print, radio, and television ads to direct-to-consumer, trademarked products. By 1993, every studio had an Exhibitor Relations team and Spielberg won a $65-million-dollar licensing and promotional campaign for *Jurassic Park* that included deals with over 100 companies to generate over 1,000 products. Rumor has it that trademark-ability was of significant concern for Spielberg when deciding on what would eventually become the film's iconic logo.

The present lot represents a later example of Spielberg's explosively successful approach to licensing his film projects and his dedication to giving his stories a continued life outside of the theater. With the current video game landscape defined by at-home consoles and career live streamers, this artifact is an exceedingly rare, nostalgic relic of that late 90s moment where movies, games, cutting-edge technology and community converged.

To see our full Digital Catalogue, including videos and slideshows, please visit our website.

https://www.sothebys.com/en/buy/auction/2025/natural-history-2/the-lost-world-jurassic-park-1997